WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY 1996

THE ODDBALLS
The men who took on
Labour and won Section Two, page 3



TRAVEL
Your guide to the
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Section Two. page 22

Yeltsin faces bloody hostage battle





storm: Two of the Chechen 'Lone Wolf' commandos (above left) who last night vowed to fight 'to the end', while up to 3,000 hostages remained at gunpoint inside the hospital (above) and security forces were set to intervene

Political crisis for Kremlin after Chechen gunmen hold 3,000 civilians inside hospital pleaded tearfully for an end to tried to negotiate with the "Lone Wolf", founded last

A bloody battle between Russian troops and Chechen gunmen, with thousands of civilian appeared inevitable last night.

President Boris Yeltsin faced political humiliation and a protracted hostage crisis after a gang of Chechen gunmen seized up to 3,000 civilians and barricaded themselves inside a hospital in a the small southern Russian town of Kizlyar.

Fierce gun-battles were reported on the streets last night after two of the hostages were said to have been executed. The raiders fired from hospital win-

dows, using patients as human military assault on the breaktroops encircled the town. In a virtual re-run of an at-

pounced on the lown three miles inside the neighbouring territory of Dagestan. An enraged Mrt Yeltsin was

shown on television accusing his border guards of "sleeping". He ordered his Security Minister. Mikhail Barsukov, to take "the most resolute measures" to end the crisis. The raid is a personal disaster for Mr Yeltsin. Thirteen months after he launched a

shields, while 4,000 Russian away Chechen republic, and ing victory in the murderous war end. Television crews filmed tack further north last June, a which ensured, he faces a proband of 600 gunmen, belonging longed and bloody confronta-children hostages, some of them hostages caught in the cross-fire, to the "Lone Wolf" commando, tion which could destroy his still attached to intraveoous

> the daring assault on the town of Budennovsk last summer. which ended in Russian capitulation amid near-farce. They rounded up residents from their homes and herded them into the town's central hospital compound. Moscow officials spoke of 1,000 hostages but local police put the figure at 3,000. Anxious women hostages

their ordeal as masked gunmen eight months after first declar- swore they would fight to the dozens of men, women and slipped across the Chechen hopes of re-election in the drips. A gunman, standing over border early yesterday and presidential elections next June. his prisoners and brandishing an The Chechen gang repeated assault rifle, said: "We have nothing to lose. We are here to

the end. About a dozen people were killed in the initial assault on the town. "The wolves have come to you," the rebel leader, Salman Raduyev, told Russian authorities in a radio message. "Withdraw troops from Chechnya or civilians will be shot." Although Dagestani officials

raiders, two hostages were reported to have been executed fighting then broke out, but its scale was not clear.

at the failure of his army to pre-vent the incursion into Dages and smuggled itself through But just as the Kremlin is li tan, a multi-ethnic region on the shores of the Caspian Sea, In a tirade broadcast on television. he accused ministers of learning nothing from the crisis last June when Chechen fighters barricaded themselves into the hospital in Budennovsk. "We have been dealt another blow,"

The raiding party is reported to be part of a group called

year by Salman Raduyev, the son-in-law of reliel leader yeslerday afternoon. Fierce Dzhokhar Dudayev. Quite ly to heed the hawks, but endapart from crossing the border ing the crisis will not be easy. A with Dagestan, the assault force former anti-terrorist chief said In Moscow, Mr Yeltsin raged is thought to have left the rebel he believed the troops would

> Chechnya. Back in June, despite pressure for a tough response to the hostage-taking, Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was allowed to negotiate an end to the nightmare in Budeonovsk.

100 miles of Russian-controlled

Hundreds of civilians were released unburt after Moscow promised to open peace talks and allow the gunmen safe pasThis time Mr Yeltsin is like-

But just as the Kremlin is likely to he in a mood to use force, the Chechen rebels can he ex-

nected to be more intransigent as a result of their experiences after Budennovsk. The talks set up by Mr Chernomyrdin in June produced a deal that the Chechens would disarm in return for a withdrawal of Russian troops from their territory. This was violated on both sides. Chechen chaos, page 8



Nuclear industry may be worthless

and MARY FAGAN

The Government may get just £800m from the privatisation of the nuclear industry, less than a third of the £2.6bn it is hoping for, according to one of the leading experts in Britain on

Britain's most modern nuclear reactors might even be worthless, according to an analysis drawn up by Gordon MacKerron, of Sussex University, and Mike Sadnicki, an operational research

City analysts share their con-

IN BRIEF

ther in a £20m gold-smuggling operation through the Channel

ports, a court heard. Page 3

A champion woman golfer was

dubbed "Muhammad Ali" after

punching a club member from

his bar stool for allegedly

stroking her thigh, an industri-

al tribunal was told. Page 3

Sunny with showers in Wales

and western England. Fine in

eastern areas after early fog has

cleared. Section Two, page 25

PC 'smuggled gold' A policewoman helped her fa-

Golfer's 'swing'

Today's weather

section

of decommissioning power stations in the future mean the sale may actually be made at a loss. Spent fuel which will cost some £3bn to reprocess is already sitting in cooling ponds at Sellafield.

Although the research was commissioned by two avowedly anti-nuclear organisations, Friends of the Earth and COLA, the Consortium of Opposing Local Authorities, its publication today will be a blow to the Government's privatisation hopes because Dr MacKerron is regarded as

One City analyst, who asked sector. quite possible that the net proceeds will not add up to much at all - if anything. The prob-lem is that no one has a clear handle on what the liabilities will be. It is also entirely unclear what the capital structure of the industry will be.

A new company, British Energy, has been set up to run the most modern reactors - the Advanced Gas-cooled Reactors (AGRs) and the Sizewell B Pressurised Water Reactor - in

cern that the costs of repro- an independent authority on preparation for privatisation. and others on our track record. to deal with the ageing Magnox cessing spent nuclear fuel and the finances of the nuclear. The unsellable Magnox reactors. That will be published later as plants. John Guioness, chairare being left in the public

> Mr Sadnicki said, "It is extremely hard to put a valuation on British Energy. Our best estimate is that the figure is small and positive. But if we use our assumptions and the nuclear in-dustry's own accounting conventions then we get negative £2.6bn.

A spokesman for British Energy said the Financial Services Act prevented the company from giving a detailed response. We will in the end have to be judged by investors an integral part of the privatisation process and that's the time at which a fair and balanced assessment can be

achieved," he said. Barclays de Zoete Wedd, which is acting as financial adviser to the Government, declined to comment. One independent City analyst described the Sussex University report as "an interesting academic exercise but one which is based on assumptions which may not be plausible.

The Government faces a further headache over exactly how

man of British Nuclear Fuels. has demanded financial guarantees on decommissioning before he will accept the Government's proposal that his company takes over the plants .

Dr MacKerron is one of two expert advisers to the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee investigating nuclear privatisation.

The committee will question nuclear industry executives and the merchant bankers James Capel on privatisation later

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Former LWT chief to chair BBC

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

Sir Christopher Bland, the former chairman of LWL will succeed Marmaduke Hussey as chairman of the BBC hoard of governors in a move timed to coincide with the corporation's new charter.

The 57-year-old who was told of his appointment seven days ago will start duties on 1 April. Yesterday he vowed to fight to retain the BBC licence fee and to maintain the corporation's independence.

the chairman of the governors is to preserve its independence and impartiality. It's a quite different role to that of chairman of a normal company," he said.

Freight Corporation, will receive a £63,670 salary for the fourday-a-week job, which he said was his "most challenging by a

long way".
The announcement yesterday came earlier than expected. Mr Hussey's five-year term of appointment was due to end on 5 November 1986. Government sources claimed

that his premature step-down was not connected to the interview given by the Princess of Wales to Panorama. It had emerged that Mr Hussey had "The most important job of deliberately been kept in the dark about it by John Birt, the director-general.

Mr Hussey is said to have met John Major, the Prime Minister, two years ago, in order to Sir Christopher, who chairs warn him that he would not

NFC, the former National wish to continue as chairman when the new charter came into

This was agreed last summer, when the search began for his successor. Names in the frame also included Sir David Scholey, a merchant banker, Lord Owen, former leader of the SDP, and Sir David Puttnam, the film producer.

Sir Christopher is a known and respected broadcaster after chairing LWT from 1983 to 1994, when it was taken over by Granada. It was there that he befriended Mr Birt, who was director of programmes.

His appointment is likely to be greeted with relief by BBC staff, who have viewed "Dukie". as he likes to be called, as an out-of-touch and old-fashioned grandee.

Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, welcomed the announcement and warmly applauded Mr Hussey for having guided the BBC through "testing but nec-

"Marmaduke Hussey's tireless stewardship has ensured that the BBC's traditions of quality programming will help guide British broadcasting into the digital future. Sir Christopher Bland is an outstanding successor," Mrs Bottomley

However, the Labour Party protested about the way the absence of consultation about Sir Christopher's appointment warned of the need for him to maintain an independent

Bluff patrician, page 2



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Bypass protesters rise to first victory

DANNY PENMAN

Protesters against the Newbury bypass cetebrated a first round victory yesterday when they prevented contractors from starting work on the road.

The constructors had spent weeks making plans to establish two secure compounds on the bypass route in Berkshire - to serve as equipment stores - and more than 500 security guards had been hired to keep away protesters while they are built. al telephone information net-

Before dawn yesterday, ac-tivists from the Third Battle of Newbury protest group block-aded the guards into their own compound when 20 campaigners erected and scaled 15ft high steel tripods in the only lane leading to where the guards were stationed, on a farm near Sulhamstead Abbots, 15 miles east of Newbury. Seven coachloads of security guards were left stranded.

The previous night a nation-

work was activated to summon anti-roads protesters to Newbury. They hoped that blocking the road from the farm would delay the security guards to allow more protesters to reach

Newbury.
But they were more successful than they anticipated. The tripods were finally moved nine hours later when the protesters made way for an ambulance for two sick security guards. By then it was too late for construction work to hegin.

During the day, some of the contractors decided to press on and prepare the ground for before," he said.

be delays. It's inevitable but it's delay the security guards again which will allow more people to reach Newbury. and prepare the ground for the compounds but the con-

they had scored a "total victory". Tom Riall, area manager for Reliance Security, the firm supplying the guards, said they were unfazed by the protesters' actions. "We were surprised but we know there are going to

the compounds but the construction teams were turned back by protesters without incident.

Jai, one of the activists, said

Jai, one of the activists, said There are now 12 camps along

> Last night the campaigners were preparing their plans for today's actions. Several teams set out to prepare roadblocks at strategic points. They hope to

They are also continuing their court actions to prevent evictions from a network of tree houses and tunnels.

The Department of Transport was told yesterday by the Third Battle of Newbury's solicitor, Liz Longhran, that it risks con-tempt of court proceedings if it approaches the camps too closely. A full hearing of the eviction proceedings is due to

begin on 26 January. Ian Blair, assistant chief constable of Thames Valley police, said he was preparing for a long series of protests but stressed police would be "bipartisan".

We are neither for the bypass nor against it. We are for law and order and we will ensure that this is the case over the days, weeks and months ahead, he said.

Four people were arrested yesterday. Two were released

Labour hits at £300m NHS lay-offs

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

The National Health Service has spent more than £300m on redundancy payments over the past five years as the Govern-ment's NHS reforms have taken effect, figures released by the Labour Party yesterday show.

Payments have risen almost ten-fold from £11.7m in 1990-91, the year before the reforms, to £113.8m last year, with more in the pipeline following the order by Stephen Dorrell, the Sec-retary of State for Health, to the NHS to cut £130m from its hu-

reaucracy in the coming year. The £300m total is enough to provide all the services that Manchester health authority huys in a year.

The figures come from Parliamentary answers by Gerald Malone, the Minister of Health, to Alan Milburn, Labour health spokesman, who claimed the redundancy hill was "sapping the health service's ability to deliver for patients".

The Department of Health said the costs were "the result of the war on bureaucracy" which was leading to millions of pounds being released for patient care. The abolition of the regional health authorities alone will release £150m a year. a departmental spokesman said. Last year, NHS Trusts ac-



counted for the majority of pay-offs at £75m, while the progressive merger of health au-thorities with family health service authorities into new health commissions helped account

Last year. Mr Malone told Mr Milburn that the largest single factor in district health authority payments was the closure of psychiatric hospitals as mental health services were organised into care in the community. Among the Trusts with the largest redundancy bills, a key factor was reviews of the skill mix of staff.

The higgest single pay-out was made by the troubled South Birmingham health authority which over two years spent £8m on redundancy.

Among Trusts, the Central Middlesex has spent £3.4m, the Wellhouse, also in Middlesex, £3.1m while the merger of Guy's and St Thomas's contributed to a £3.1m redundancy bill.

The scale of the payments fol-lows criticism of the amounts some trusts have spent in redundancy packages for senior managers. The Cheviot and Wansbeck Trust in Northumberland last year spent £524,000 - enough to provide 150 hip replacements - making its chief executive redundant, while the Greenwich and Burnley trusts spent £200,000 and £250,000 respectively in compensation pay-ments to their departing chief

that "only this government | seemed in effect dead yesterday, could make multi-million payoffs a priority at a time when the NHS is crying out for more doctors and nurses. Even its pathetic attempt to cut down on bureaucracy has ended up cost-

ing the taxpayer a fortune". The Department of Health said the redundancies had contributed to a higher proportion of NHS staff than ever before being engaged in front-line care.



Peking or bust: A 1932 Aston Martin 1.5 litre International belonging to Gerry Archar leading entrants in the Paris to Peking vintage car rally

Women shortlists 'in effect dead'

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

Mr Milburn said yesterday parliamentary seats for women as legal experts cast doubt on the party's immediate declaration that it was "almost certain" to appeal against Monday's rul-

ing that the policy is unlawful.
One lawyer with experience of industrial tribunal cases said he thought Labour's chances of overturning the decision on appeal were "not good".

Peter Jepson, the part-time law lecturer who brought the

case against the party, warned peal case could be heard with selections while it decides appellant, Roger Dyas-Elliott. yesterday that an appeal against in one month, but might run for whether to appeal, and will also appear to be safe. Al-Monday's ruling by Leeds In-Labour's policy of reserving dustrial Tribunal would be a "running sore" over the coming

Stephen Grosz, an employment law specialist with the solicitors Bindmans, said an appeal would probably be taken under a fast-track procedure for urgent matters of public interest. "The Employment Appeals Tribunal might take notice of the fact that there might be an election fairly soon. Mr Grosz said. An "expedited" ap- remaining 14 women-only lenged by Mr Jepson and his co-contest, he added.

six mouths. come under pressure from

Another lawyer described activists in a number of con-Sir John Mummery, president stituencies, where an all-woman months, in the run-up to a of the Employment Appeals Tri-general election. of the Employment Appeals Tri-bunal, which would hear the ap-to do so. peal, as a "loose cannon. seriously unpredictable". But some Labour sources said that a defeat on appeal would compound the party's embarrassment, and Tony Blair, the now "out of time". Men can only Labour leader has, in any case, always been unenthusiastic about the women-only policy. Labour has suspended its

challenge those chosen in the last three months. The three women candidates whose selections were chal-

Marianne MacDonald profiles the outgoing BBC Chairman and his successor

But the position of most of

the 34 women already selected

from women-only shortlists is

not affected by Monday's ruling,

as most of their selections are

also appear to he safe. Although Mr Jepson said vesterday he thought the selection process should be re-run in the London seats he sought, Re-gent's Park and Kensington North, and Brentford and Isleworth, both he and Mr Dyas-Elliott said they would support the candidates already chosen.

"Ann Keen is an excellent candidate for Brentford and Isleworth, who I know personally," he said. But, because the process had been ruled unlawful, the party should run a fresh

Lifestyle linked to

Alzheimer's disease Scientists have established a link between lifestyle habits and the onset of Alzheimer's dis-ease, it was revealed.

Preliminary imdings from a team in the US, published in Alzheimer's Research, suggest that people are more likely to contract the disease at an early age if they smoke heavily. For heavy smokers with a low genetic rich of metting the disease. netic risk of getting the disease, there seemed to be a link beween the onset of Alzheimer's and alcohol. But the picture was reversed for non-smokers with a high genetic susceptibility where three drinks a day ap-

peared to delay the disease. The results, from scientists at the Department of Neurologs at Boston University School of Medicine, were described as very significant by the Alzheimer's Research Irust.

Sams: new charges Michael Sams, serving life for the murder of Julie Dart and the kidnap of Stephanie Slater, is to be charged with the attempted murder and false imprisoratera of a probation officer during a surgery for prisoners in Wate field jail. Julia Flack, the wife of the Archdeacon of Punc-fract, suffered neck injuries in the incident last October.

BBC's Christmas joy

The BBC scooped nine of the top 10 places in the Christmes Day ratings, according to viewing figures, with a special double edition of Eastenders taking the top two slots with 22.3 mil lion and 19.5 million viewers. ITV secured fourth slot with Coronation Street, which attracted 17.4 million viewers

Car tax fraud

Staff cuts at the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency have led to a rise in car tax evasion, says a report by the National Audit Office. Evasion has risen from 3.5 per cent of revenue in the 1980s to 4.1 per cent, representing £163m, while staff have been cut 4 per cent to 2,600.

Correction

Adrian Berry is the science correspondent of The Daily Telegraph, and not its industrial reporter, as reported in The Independent of 4 January.

Nonia

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THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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Bluff patrician's 'no-nonsense'

management Marmaduke Hussey, 72, has said himself that he was amazed when, as he carried out an indeterminate and undemanding executive post at Times Newspapers, he got a telephone

then Home Secretary, asking him to be chairman of the It was September 1986; he had almost no experience of hroadcasting and little idea what the job involved. "What ahout a brief?" be asked.
"You'll find out when you get
there," Hurd chuckled.

call from Douglas Hurd, the

Hussey certainly did. He arrived amid a complacent bureaucracy, demoralised by poor leadership and sniping from the Thatcher government.

His solution was to fire the then director-general Alasdair Milne. The move in 1987 carned him loathing from the staff - who blamed him, and still do, for the brutal manner in which he went about it. It did not help when he an-

nounced in July 1991 that Milne's successor. Michael Checkland, would be replaced by his deputy. John Birt, in March 1993 - creating a 21-month vacuum at the top. Hussey steam-rollered objections to Birt's appointment, and this annoyed staff too, af-

ter he became irresistibly asso-ciated with the cuts to the BBC. Yet over the last two years. even Birt is said to have become fed up with him. Hussey ruffled his feathers by criticising the decision to screen John Major's been 17 in its history—to have served a second term.

MARMADUKE HUSSEY

Panorama interview, in Scotland, three days before the local elections. He also observed in 1994 that

the BBC had slipped from the moral high ground in its search for sensational news. Most irritatingly, he was among the BBC governors who criticised Birt last year, after discovering a two-year, £55m redundancy programme had apparently left the corporation with more staff.

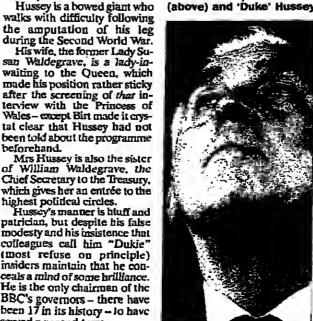
walks with difficulty following the amputation of his leg during the Second World War. His wife, the former Lady Susan Waldegrave, is a lady-inwaiting to the Queen, which made his position rather sticky after the screening of that interview with the Princess of Wales - except Birt made it crys-

been told about the programme beforehand.
Mrs Hussey is also the sister of William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury. which gives her an entrée to the

highest political circles. Hussey's manner is hluff and patrician, but despite his false modesty and his insistence that colleagues call him "Dukie" (most refuse on principle) insiders maintain that he conceals a mind of some hrilliance. He is the only chairman of the BBC's governors - there have



(above) and 'Duke' Hussey



Candidate who neatly met all the job criteria

One thing seems certain: the ap-pointment of Sir Christopher Bland will be viewed as good news by staff at the BBC, by John Birt, the director-general of the corporation, and by Tony Blair, the possible future prime

The appointment was made by the Department of National Heritage, which looked

They wanted someone with commercial experience (to take the BBC into its digital future): with regulatory experigovernors is to regulate the corporation) and broadcasting

experience. Sir Christopher, 57, neatly had all these qualifications. He is a chairman of several large or-ganisations, notably the Hammersmith and Charing Cross NHS Trust, NFC, the former National Freight Corporation. and Life Sciences, a scientificequipment group.

He gained regulatory experience when he served as deputy chairman of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (which became the Independent Television Commission in 1991) for most of the 1970s.

He is also deputy chairman of Nynex Cable Communicanons - from which he will re-sign - and chaired LWT when it was acrimoniously taken over by Granada, which left him at least £9m richer,

SIR CHRISTOPHER BLAND

He was already very rich, after having masterminded LWP's franchise application in 1991. It made millionaires of many of its senior management; some observers viewed it with distaste.

- The son of a Shell executive, al Heritage, which looked throughout the second half of Sir Christopher was born in last year before settling on Sir — Japan and led a normalic child-christopher, who had all along hood before going to school at been a front-runner. ran a regime of cold baths. National service and Oxford

University were followed by spells at Currys and Singer sewing machines, culminating in his move to LWT in 1984, where he developed his reputation for not suffering fools

He is keen on fishing and skiing, and his impressive Win-chester home is also the scene of many parties, with guests including John Birt.

He has earned the reputation of heing work-driven. When asked why he had accepted the chairmanship of NFC (at £200,000 a year) when

he was already a multi-million-aire he said simply: "They asked It will be interesting to see how Sir Christopher comes to grips with the newly commer-cialised BBC, especially given the opinion of Greg Dyke, the

partner with whom he ran LWT. When Sir Christopher shouted, he said, the best idea was to

M&S

may sue

on 'child

labour'

claims

Marks & Spencer and one of its

suppliers were considering

legal action yesterday over

allegations that children as

young as 14 were employed to

An M&S executive was

dispatched to Morocco to

investigate claims made in Monday's World In Action doc-

umentary that child labour was

being used and that ctothes

made there were later labelled

Lawyers for the retailer and for Desmonds, a Londonderry-

based supplier, were examining

the allegations with a view to

issuing a writ for defamation.

Both companies reacted furi-ously, arguing that the misla-

belling was a simple mistake and that the child labour allegations

were "simply untrue".

The programme challenged
M&S's public assertions that it

carefully vets suppliers to ensure

they comply with the highest

standards of manufacture and

employee welfare and that most

of its products are British-

Researchers found that some

ightwear labelled "made in the

Worse for the manufacturers.

World In Action claimed to

have interviewed children who

were employed at the factory

even though they were only 14.

M&S immediately went on the offensive, describing the programme as "slanted and

distorted in making unproven

allegations which were unsupported by the pictures actually

It went on: "For these allegations to be true, there would have to have been deliberate

collusion to mislead us... Marks & Spencer has never ex-ploited child labour. The company considers the use of child labour abhorrent, and would

"As for suggestions that

Marks & Spencer misrepre-

sents the proportion of its mer-chandise which is British-made,

the company's last annual report clearly stated that M&S sold

£5.3bn of British made goods in

1994/95 (78 per cent of British

only four incidents of misla-

belling in the last five years -representing only £310,000 out

of total sales of nearly £18bn."

Desmonds, said that one of his

senior managers and a board

member of M&S had flown to

Morocco to carry out a surprise

inspection when World In Action

first approached them with

He said they examined all

employment records and met

workers in the factory and

stipulate that all the girls who

work there have to be 16, apart

from a few 15-year-old ap-

prentices, who are not allowed

to work with machinery," he

"It is simply untrue to say our

contractors are using child

labour. All the evidence, their

records, our records and gov-

ernment records, show that this

is not the case. The matter is

now in the hands of our

found no 14-year-olds.

Denis Desmond, chairman of

"In fact, there have been

sales).

never countenance it.

UK", supposedly by Desmonds, was in fact made at Sicome SA,

in Morocco.

make their products.

made in the UK".

STEVE BOGGAN

Chief Reporter

PC 'helped father in £20m gold conspiracy'

A policewoman helped her father in a £20m operation to smuggle 24-carat gold ingots from Belgium to Britain through the Channel ports, a court was told yesterday.

Constable Lucy Gilmore, 25, allegedly travelled with her father to the Continent "every other weekend" to bring back the one-kilogram bars.

Knightshridge Crown Cnun was told that on each occasion the bullion was concealed in cars and never declared in Custams and Excise for Value Added Tax

It was then sold on by others involved in the 18-month conspiracy, possibly making mare than £3m profit in the process because of the VAT that was then paid by the new owners, it was alleged.

Ms Gilmnre, 25, nf Bridg-north, Shropshire, and another alleged courier in the operation Surrinder Kumar, 32, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, deny a joint charge of conspiracy in cheat by evading payment of VAT on the imported hullion.

Peter Rook QC, for the prosecution, told the jury that Ms Gilmore's father Michael, 53, of Craithie, Aberdeenshire, had admitted his part in the affair.

Normally, hecause the price of gold was the same across the world, it did not make commercial sense to import it from abroad, he said. It only proved profitable when gold could be obtained from a tax-free source, smuggled abroad and then sold on with VAT added on.

Mr Rook said Belgium normally imposed only 1 per cent VAT on the precious metal, but

punching a club member from

his bar stool, an industrial

The story quickly spread of how the blonde Philomena

Vaughan swung into action

when John Price, a business-

man, allegedly stroked her thigh

at a trophy presentation cere-

Jean Evans, a part-time

assistant at the Dewstow Golf

Club shop, which Mrs Vaugh-

an managed, told the Cardiff

hearing of jokes that were made

about the incident afterwards.

about it," said Mrs Evans. "She

was talking to a shop rep and saying members were calling her

Muhammad Ali. That's how

word got around other clubs."

of four, three times club cham-

pion and a county player, was

later sacked for gross insubor-

dination, the tribunal has heard.

She is claiming unfair dis-

missal and sexual discrimination

by the £450-a-year Dewstow

Club at Caerwent Gwent

where she had worked for five

years. Her case is being backed

by the Equal Opportunities

Jonathan Harris, a partner in the family-run club with 800

members, agreed that he had

also chuckled at first when told

about the incident - but that he

then realised the implications.

Commission.

45 1 .

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Mrs Vaughan, 42. a mother

"Philomena was laughing

tribunal heard yesterday.



Woman golfer | Police investigate

after punch-up football stalwart

ed in January 1993.

"It is the prosecution's case

afoot and she was thereby as-

sisting her father as courier," Mr

Police and gas engineers were

last night investigating the deaths

at home of the captain of Scot-

land's leading First Division

football team and his girlfriend.

dresser, were found dead on

Monday evening at McCathie's

home in Fife, when McCathie's

business partner John Watson

and a friend. Geoffrey Menzies,

became worried after he missed

tage in Crossford at around 6pm

to find the pair fatally poi-

soned by gas fumes. Post-

mortem examinations yesterday

showed that both died of car-

bon monoxide poisoning and gas engineers were last night ex-

They broke into the farm cot-

training on Monday.

Norrie McCathie, 34, and

He alleged Kumar was "one

death of Scottish

it was the Crown's case the the conspiracy, which was endsmugglers avoided paying even that by pretending the real purchaser was an overseas businessman trading from Dubai.

He said Mr Gilmore, one of a number of couriers, was accompanied to Belgium by his daughter, who was stationed at Telford in the West Midlands at the time, on at least four occasions towards the latter end of

ously denies touching her.

"There was a bad atmosphere and something needed to be done about it," said Mr

Mrs Vaughan was suspended

Although there was no dis-

from playing golf at the club

but kept her job at the shop,

pute that Mrs Vaughan had

struck Mr Price, the club had

been imable to find any wit-

nesses who saw what caused the

dismissed two months later.

after launching a "tirade of

abuse" against Elwyn Harris,

the club committee chairman.

She was also alleged to have called the club's ladies' captain

Mary Fuller an "old bitch"

after being told she would no

longer be allowed to collect a

Giving evidence, Mrs Fuller said Mrs Vaughan had been a

friend. Their relationship had

soured because Mrs Vaughan

had mistakenly believed she

was taking the management's

side, the tribunal heard. "I told

her that I was ladies' captain and

had no responsibility whatso-

ever to management on em-

ployment matters. I said I would

never be responsible for her

Mrs Vaughan, a 14-handicap

losing her job."

trophy on behalf of the club.

The tribunal heard she was

pending an investigation.

incident, said Mr Harris.

labelled 'Ali'

A champion lady golfer was dubbed "Muhammad Ali" after and Mr Price, 49, who strenu-

Harris.

tenant" to his elder brother, Jeevan Kanda, "the moving spirit behind this fraud". Both men, he said, were in-

He acted as a "trusted lieu-

volved in the jewellery business in the Midlands. Both Kanda and his girlfriend, another alleged courier, were now somewhere abroad.

Investigators had failed to discover the precise destination of the gold after it arrived in Britain, although Ms Gilmore allegedly told her farmer boylriend, Robert Davis, that its eventual destination was Birm-

Mr Rook said Mr Davis, a trial witness, would tell the court with her father as often as every other weekend.

Mr Rook said that in one of her letters to her then boyfriend Ms Gilmore spoke of a trip to Belgium being a "change from my normal tedious routine" which would "give me a little ex-

tra cash".
"Why would Lucy Gilmore be receiving a little extra cash for going on a trip with her fa-ther?" he asked.

Mr Rook said all the gold was paid for in cash in Belgium, with a Birmingham deposit box being used to keep it in before the purchases were made.
A total of 107 gold purchas-

es had been made in Belgium, Mr Rook said, after that when she accompanied her father she knew what was which it was smuggled by ferry or hovercraft through Dover and Sheerness using Audi and Volvo cars. Forensic tests reof the most prolific couriers", vealed traces of "high purity" gold in a number of the cars. taking cash abroad and bring-

amining the cottage. Fife police said there were "no suspicious

companied by Julie Gillies,

daughter of the club director

Andrew Gillies. On Sunday, the Scottish Sunday Mail re-

ported that she was pregnant

with McCathie's child, some-

to McCathie, who played for Dunfermline Athletic for the

past 15 years, captaining the side

for the last eight. He helped the

club to promntion three times, including two seasons in the Scottish Premier League, and

led the side out at Hampden in

the 1991 League Cup Final. Next Tuesday he had been

due to make his 500th League

appearance in a Dunfermline

shirt. The club, which tops the

Scottish First Division, post-

poned last night's away fixture

against Dumbarton, and Sat-

urday's home game against

Clydebank also looks doubtful.

The two pubs in the area owned

by McCathie were also closed

last night as a mark of respect.

Dunfermline manager, said yes-terday: "He was a winner as well

and he was like a rock in our de-

fence. To be with one club for

15 seasons is rare these days

and he was a hero with the

The cluh secretary, Paul

D'Mello, said: "There is just ab-

solute devastation here today.

He was like the bricks of the club

Dunfermline fans."

Jim Leishman, a former

Fans and players paid tribute

Watson and Menzies were ac-

circumstances"

thing he denied.

Take a right at the Doors ...



take left at the Carpenters ...



... and end with Elton John



RICHARD SMITH

A farming community is trying to solve a bizarre mystery which has left a tiny village swamped with wacky road signs dedicated to pop stars. It all started after Tony Dale,

a farmer, innocently put up a makeshift warning sign saying 'Mud" on the main road through Preston on Wye, near Hereford, Soon afterwards, another sign appeared nearby bearing the word "Showaddy-waddy", and during the past three weeks more than 30 home-made signs have sprout-ed up on a mile-long stretch of road through the village (population 250).

They include: a pair of jeans hanging from an oak tree with a sign saying "Swinging Blue

with driftwood and pebbles bearing with the words "Sandie Shaw"; the lower half of a tailor's dummy wearing knickers and a pair of wellington boots, labelled "Nancy Sinatra"; a lavatory sprayed with the word

"Abba". The caper even extends to a sign greeting motorists with the words "ELO and welcome to Preston".

"Loolu"; and a sign pointing to a field full of swedes which says

Almost every day villagers wake to find new signs have sprung up, but no one knows

who is responsible. "It all started because the

farmer who put up the Mud sign didn't include the words 'on road'," said Mike Smith, a local builder. "So some witty bugger stuck up sign saying Showaddy waddy who were Mud's rival band in the Seventies.

"Since then the signs have been getting more and more witty. The great thing about it is nobody knows who is behind it. Some people have said its dangerous because motorists are slowing down to read the signs. But this is the best traffic calming measure Preston has

One of the prime suspects is the local councillor Harry Hancox, 64, a retired BT engineer.

"For some reason they keep blaming me hut I'm definitely not guilty," he said. "I think most people find it very amusing but I suspect the

lawvers. Granada TV said yesterday last act will be made by the pothat it stood by World In Action's lice or the highway authority ordering the Move." claims and was following up new leads thrown up by the

golfer, of Rogiet, near Newport, is expected to give evidence After rumours and gossip about the row, the club manwhen the hearing resumes Amanda Burns: Found dead in farm cottage agement had tried to settle the today. Aheavyweight

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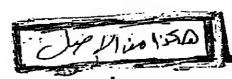
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Lloyd Webber shows aspects of Picasso



Borrowed and blue: Sir Andrew with his £18m picture of the painter Angel Fernandez de Soto at the National Gallery Photograph: Glynn Griffiths

JOHN McKIE

Sir Andrew Lloyd Wehher vesterday put a Picasso painting - which he bought for more than £18m - on show to the pub-

lic at the National Gallery.

The painting, from the artist's "blue period", was bought by the composer for £18,045,500 at Sotheby's in New York and is the most expensive painting to have been sold at auction since 1990. He has lent it to the National Gallery for the next six months and for "three to four months" a year until the turn of the millennium.

The painting dates from 1903 and depicts Picasso's friend and depicts Picasso's friend don't come up on the market centu and fellow artist, Angel Fervery often and I don't know of loan."

nandez de Soto, smoking und drinking in a Barcelona caté. De Soto was described by Picasso as "an amusing wastrel".

A keen collector, Sir Andrew vesterday revealed why he had bought the painting for his Art Foundation and he also hinted at plans to open a collection of work he has bought, which includes Canaletto's Horseguards of the Parade, on which he spent around £10m in 1992, and which is currently on loan to the Tate Gallery.

Sir Andrew said: "The Picasso was part of a jigsaw of which there are a lot of parts missing. Very good pictures

any others of this quality to have come up.

"I would like to have all my collection in one place tine day but it would take tremendous organisation. In addition, a lot of the pieces have been with me since I was young and I like having them around me."

Sir Andrew also revealed that he had failed to buy the last major Picasso work on sale. 10 Picusso, when it was sold in 1489

Neil MacGregor, director of the National Gallery, was delighted. He said: "It's one of the greatest portraits of one of the greatest artists of the twentieth century. It's a terribly generous

Nursery education: Tories plan new performance measures

Voucher scheme 'will not guarantee' places

ססטנ אדוסטנ Education Editor

Four-year-olds are not guaranteed a nursery place under the Government's voucher scheme, ministers admitted yesterday. And some nursery schools will be able to operate for up to a year before they are inspected. Robin Squire, the schools

Mr Squire insisted vouchers would increase the number of nursery places, but added: "It is impossible to say that on 1 April next year every single four-year-old will have a place."

Mr Squire said providers of nursery education would be required to fill in forms saying what education and staff they could offer before they were allowed to receive vouchers.

"Self-assessment will deter the frivolous," he said. He admitted it would be possible for them to operate for up to a year offering education that might later he pronounced inadequate: "There is a trade-off between the necessity of having large numbers of providers and the importance and fiming of

for parents in four pilot local authorities will be issued in the next two weeks.

David Blunkett, Labour's education and employment spokesman, said: "Three of the four local authorities have said that they are unable to guarantee a place in return for a voucher. Where there is no place there can be no choice.

"The proposed inspection regime, which during the first year will only require providers to validate themselves, is hardly a guarantee of high-quality provision. He questioned whether the Office for Standards in Education would be able to cope with the workload

created by the scheme.
The office is still struggling to inspect all primary schools. There will have to be 12,000 inspeculous of private and voluntary nurseries in 1997, and 4.0(0) additional inspectors will be needed for day-long visits to

Mr Squire said inspection would be "light touch, not soft touch". All private and voluntary providers would need to be registered under the Children return it to the agency.

The £1,100-a-year vouchers Act, safeguarding health and reparents in four pilot local safety. Those that failed to come up to scratch would lose their validation and close at once, though parents' voucher

money would not be refunded. Fewer than half existing playgroups are expected to apply to join the voucher scheme. The rest believe they do not yet meet

the Government's standards. Margaret Lochrie, chief executive officer of the Pre-School Learning Alliance, said: "We will do all we can to create the new places which are required for four-year-olds, but more funds are needed to train additional staff and for new premises.

nursery education providers will have to show that they are working towards goals for what five-year-olds should know. The goals, drawn up by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, include first steps towards literacy and numeracy and a sense o right and wrong. Vouchers will be sent out each term by an agency, which will write to eligible parents through the Child Benefii Centre. Parents will have to complete a form and

Tests for five-year-olds are given go-ahead

JUDITH JUDD

Children will be tested at five or earlier under proposals an-nounced by the Government

Robin Squire, the schools minister, said the Government had not yet decided whether testing five-year-olds would be voluntary or enforced by legislation. Voluntary tests could be introduced next September but compulsory ones could not be in place until 1998.

Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, has asked her advisers on the curriculum and testing to look at ways in which schools are testing five-year-olds.

At oresent most schools test live-year-olds to find out their weaknesses. Ministers want to

and children's progress as happens in local authorities such as Birmingham, Schools' success would be judged by the progress children made between the ages of five, seven and eleven. Tests for 7- and 11-year-olds are

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "Any attempt to substitute simple tests for some of the excellent local authority schemes will merely diminish

the quality of assessment." Pupils will be tested on the basis of goals for five-year-olds drawn up by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, Marian Whitehead of the Early Years Curriculum ative development: use their Group said: "This is backwards imaginations through art.

use tests to measure schools' selling five-year-olds short and turning them off learning for

Goals or "outcomes" include:

personal and social development; children to be confident. show self-respect, take turns and share fairly: language and literacy: know print reads from left to right, recognise own names and some familiar words; maths: use numbers to 10 and be familiar with bigger numbers in their everyday lives; knowledge and understanding of the world: talk about where they live, their environment, their families, past and present events in their own lives; use computers: physical development: use small and large equipment; creto basics and can only lead to music, dance, stories and play,

Breast scans for elderly may save 2,000 lives

GLENDA COOPER

Up to 2000 lives a year could be saved if routine preast canger screening was extended to older women, according to the charity Age Concern.

Widespread ignorance among older women also meant that they were not aware that they were at risk, despite the fact that two-thirds of deaths from the disease occur in women aged 65 or ever.

Unlike their counterparts aged 50 to 64, older women are not invited for three-yearly screenings through the NHS breast screening programme. but they can request one.

However the survey of more than 1,000 women aged 65 showed that 70 per cent of women are unaware that they are entitled to request a screening, largely believing this right lies with younger women. Goveriment figures show that less than half of one per cent of older women take up this entitlement every year.

Even those who do ask for a screening may be turned down per cent of respondents said they were told that screening was not available or were

Age Concern's report. Not At

My Age, also showed that 64 per cent of respondents considered deaths from breast cancer," themselves "not very much at risk" from breast cancer and more than a quarter [28 per cent] helieved that they were at "no risk at all". More than half

had never had a mammogram. The director-general of Age Concern. Sally Greengross. said: "These findings paint a very bleak picture for older women. The current system does not adequately cater for those women most at risk. Up to 2.000 extra lives a year could be saved if screening were extended to older women. It is vital that they are made aware of their rights to the screening ser-

vice. It is unacceptable that their ignorance may kill." The charity is calling for the NHS breast screening programme to be extended so that all women over 65 arc included in invitations for screening.

The shadow health minister. Henry McLeish, said Labour was concerned at the number of older women who were not being offered screening or being refused the service. Breast cancer caused 5 per

cent of all deaths in women, he said, and many could be pre- ernment should reconsider the vented. "The Government is value for money of a profailing to meet its own targets—gramme that costs £27m a year.

But Julietta Patnick, national co-ordinator of the NHS breast screening programme. said that they had funded an educational drive with Age Concern to inform older women of their right to screening: "However t must emphasise we are not yet in a position to start including older women in the automatic call and recall system.

"The programme prides itself on strict evaluation of new developments before they are fully incorporated. That is why we have welcomed the pilot programmes into increasing the screening age which are being set up in Wakefield and

Breast cancer was also the subject of controversy after cancer specialists questioned the value of the Government's

screening programme.
Professor Gordon McVie. scientific director of the Cancer Research Campaign, and Professor Michael Baum, a consultant surgeon at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, said in September that the Gov-

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Chinook's engines 'failed' before fatal crash

JOHN ARLIDGE

The Chinook helicopter which crashed on the Mull of Kintyre. killing elite counter-terrorist officers from Northern Ireland. may have suffered mechanical problems just before it struck a hut could not hear any noise mountain and exploded killing from the engines. the 29 people on board.

An eyewitness who saw the Beinn na Lice on the tip of the

who was on a cycling holiday on Kintyre, said he felt a downdraft from the helicopter's rotors

The Chinook, flying from aircraft plough into the 1,400ft that he could feel "a heat" from the craft and ducked to avoid it. Seconds later he heard

terday that he could not hear the by him into a mist-shrouded hillaircraft's engines as it flew over side smashing into the slopes of his head. Russell Ellacott, 35. the mountain, disintegrating "like a fireworks display".

Mr Ellacott, from Sussex, is the only person who saw the USmade aircraft crash. Lawyers representing the two pilots, whom the Ministry of Defence blame Belfast to Inverness, was so low for the crash, regard his evidence as crucial. They argue the acci-dent in June 1994, the RAF's

cial inquiry into the accident yes- a dull thud as it crashed close was the result of mechanical not chanical problems emerged yespilot, error. They will present evidence to

the inquiry in Paisley that the helicopter suffered an engine "flame out" moments before the crash. Tests carried out by RAF safety experts weeks before the accident nucovered flameouts on other Chinooks and test flights were suspended. Chinooks already in service, however, continued to fly. Further evidence of me-

terday from a witness who described how the Chinook was flying dangerously low and making a peculiar noise as it left Northern Ireland. Anne Tyler, 40, from Carnlough in County Antrim, described how the twin-rotor craft "skimmed tree tops, roof tops and chim-ney pots" as it left the Irish mainland.

The helicopter was up the gien from our house, and was

flying very low," she said. "It was helicopter's two rotors might be strument maker from Stewa very loud noise. There was something strange about it. It

wasn't a familiar noise." She conceded she was not an aviation expert but she said she had heard military heli-copters in the province before and when the Chinook came overhead she had "a gut feeling" something was wrong. There was something strange about the noise." At the time she recalled that she thought the

"out of sync" Mark Holbrook, 39, turned

his attention from the helicopter once he realised it was not taking part in sea manoeu-vres in his immediate vicinity, and did not see the crash happen. But he saw it flying straight and level at a height of 200ft to 400ft, as if it was heading for the nearby RAF Machrihanish

Mr Holbrook, a scientific in-

arton, Strathclyde, told the inquiry he could see the helicopter from about a quarter to half a mile away, its landing gear, markings and flashing light all clearly visible.

He told the inquiry: "If you

the pilot could see the location of the Muli lighthouse, yes. I believe he could." The inquiry at Paistey Sheriff Court continues.

are seeking to establish whether

Women join boardroom elite but 'glass ceiling' holds firm



The appointment this week of Clara Freeman as Marks & Spencer's first female executive an exclusive club. According to surveys, there are just two other female executive directors of FTSE-100 companies, Kathleen O'Donovan and Rosemary Thorne, finance directors respectively of J Sainsbury and the industrial conglomerate BTR.

Although news of Mrs Freeman's promotion came at the same time as Rolls-Royce Motor Cars' announcement that it was appointing its first woman executive board member -Christine Gaskell, who joins from Fisons - there is little evidence that women are finally breaking through the "glass ceiling" which stops them progressing to the very top of the career ladder.

Indeed, in 1994 the Institute of Management (IoM) produced a shock report showing that the proportion of women managers in British industry had dropped after 21 years of suc-cessive rises. The long-term trend was resumed last year, however, with another rise from 9.5 per cent to 10.7 per cent - while the figure for women on the board hit a new peak of 3 per cent.

Roger Young, director general of the organisation, said this was still not sufficient. There are not enough women at board level by a long shot. They bring a different perspective and difcouraged that more women appear to be aspiring to board positions - they account for at least half of the participants on many of the management



NICOLA HORLICK: Managing director in charge of the City pension fund business Deutsche-Morgan Horlick, 33, known in the Square Mile as "Superwoman" because of managing to combine her

demanding post with marriage to a banker and having four children, is one of a band of influential women in banking. Someone who has known her since university days says: "She's so dynamic sha's frightening."

courses that the IoM organises. The Institute of Directors, which stresses that it does not favour positive discrimination, reports a 70 per cent increase in the number of women diferent talents, and represent 50 per cent of society, so should be up there." He is, however, enisation, meanwhile, has grown by about 30 per cent in the past year, so that they represent about a tenth of the 35,000strong UK membership.



KATHLEEN O'DONGVAN: Finance director of BTR, this hard-working 37-year-old won favour with senior management of this femously costconscious organisation with her business acumen. BTR controls Dunlop and has a turnover of nearly £10bn. O'Donovan helped to complete BTR's £1.5bn bid for Hawker Siddeley. Colleagues say she likes to "get on with the job" - something that apparently means regular 13-hour days. A keen

Opportunity 2000, the organisation that promotes women in business, was also encouraged by a doubling of the proportion of women managers among its 295 members in its fourth year of operation ending last November.

Manchester United supporter.

However, women still account for only I per cent of main board positions, and Liz Bargh, director of Opportunity 2000, attacked the "stupidity" of work-believes there is a lot of work-ing long hours, which she said still to be done. "We just have



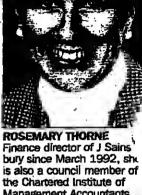
ANN IVERSON Chief executive of Laura Ashley, she has long experience of retail, both in her native US and in Britain. Appointed vice president of Bloomingdales in 1984. Six years later, fured to Britain to tum round British Home Stores, a performance that established her reputation in this country. Became chief executive of Mothercare for two years before returning to the US. Aged 51, she relaxes with "easy fiction, the theatre

and gardening in Arizona". to keep on saying that this is a

serious husiness issue." All concerned agree that among the higgest hars to women's promotion are the "boys' club" attitudes and the long-hours culture prevalent in

British industry.

This view was thrown into fresh relief yesterday when the top businesswoman Prue Leith discriminated unfairly against



bury since March 1992, she is also a council member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. Aged 44, she was group financial controller at Grand Metropolitan for two years before that and has been financial director and company secretary at Harrods and in the finance department at Storehouse. Fellow of the Association of Corporate Treasurers and involved with the Prince's Youth Business Trust

women. Many male manager. were playing a "stressful powe game" by starting work at the crack of dawn and staving lat. in the office, she complained. Ms Leith, who founded a

successful catering company and is a non-executive director of several companies, said she had suggested at a recent board meeting that executives should set an example by leaving work at 5pm to spend time with their families. Leading article, page 14

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Duo's nude art advert upheld

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

The debate over nudity in advertising - and art - reignited yesterday when the Advertising Standards Authority refused to uphold complaints that Gilbert and George's The Naked Shit

Pictures were offensive. The ageing duo's controversial exhibition last August at the South London Gallery featured 16 enormous photographs of ex-crement and pictures of the artists naked, one showing their

It was promoted with an ad-

vert showing a full-frontal nude photograph of Gilbert and George in both Time Out, the London listings magazine, and The Big Issue, which campaigns for the homeless.

Unfortunately, the explicit picture attracted the ire of the home counties - Hampshire and Berkshire, to he specific where two complainants objected to the title of the exhi-

bition and to the advert for it. The ASA did not uphold their complaints. The advertisers believed that nudity, a recurrent theme in artistic

expression throughout the his-

thought offensive," it said.
"They said the title of the exhibition was included in the advertisement partly to reflect

> pictured naked people and excrement." Ironically, the finding could pair, who for years have tried to shock the art world and the pub-

the type of art on show, which

sports bras could prevent

advertisement asked: "If you don't wear a Berlei sports bra what shape will you be in?" and featured an illustration of a skipping rope shaped to outline a pair of sagging breasts. Twenty complainants argued

that the illustration was oftenbe viewed as a defeat for the sive and that the sports bras could not prevent drooping in the long term.

lic. This has led them to the public lavatory, and associated images of masturbation.

A second ASA ruling criticised Berlei for suggesting drooping breasts, the ASA said drooping breasts, the ASA said there was insufficient evidence.

Nature reserve threatened by drought order

NICHOLAS SCHOON Environment Correspondent

Drought-hit Yorkshire Water wants to take millions of extra gallons a day from the river running through a wetland which the Government yesterday proposed as an outstanding European nature site.

Conservationists say that if the Government grants the company an emergency drought order to take extra water from the Derwent, south-east of York, it could have a disastrous impact on the valley's ecology and large bird population.

There will be a public hearing next Tuesday into Yorkshire Water's application to raise the limit on what it can extract at two pumping stations in the Lower Derwent Valley from 305,000 tonnes a day to 360,000, an 18 per cent increase.

If granted, it would last six months - enabling the compamy to build up stocks until the summer. But Yorkshire Water is also applying to the National Rivers Authority to raise the limit for a three-year period.

Yesterday, the Environment Secretary, John Gummer, said the valley should be one of a further 75 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) under the European Union's habitats directive. These are the wildlife support system."

sites which get the highest lev-el of legal protection from deelopment and damage under British law. Last year, the Goverament sent a list of 136 sites to the European Commission for inclusion in the directive.

The list proposed yesterday also includes Dungeness in Kent, Orford Ness in Suffolk, Epping Forest, north-east of London, Salisbury Plain, Flam-borough Head in Yorkshire, Lundy, the Scilly Isles, the Avon Gorge woodlands in Bristol, Dartmoor, and the large area of sand dunes at Braunton Burrows, Devon. Scottish sites include Rannoch Moor and the flow country of the far north. In the Derwent Valley, thousands of bird overwinter including 23,000 wildfowl and more than 15,000 waders, gold-

en plover, teal, wigeon, pochard, shoveler and whimbrel. In the summer, several other birds breed in the damp meadows, including lapwing, snipe, curlew and redshank. There are also breeding otters.

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds strongly opposes the application. "There is a great danger of a major im-pact on the wetland, the conservation officer Kevin Baves' said. "Removing the water is a little like switching off the life

DAILY POEM

CeaseFire

By Michael Longley

Put in mind of his own father and moved to tears Achilles took him by the hand and pushed the old king Gently away, but Priam curled up at his feet and Wept with him until their sadness filled the building.

Taking Hector's corpse into his own hands Achilles Made sure it was washed and, for the old king's sake, Laid it out in uniform, ready for Priam to carry Wrapped like a present home to Troy at daybreak.

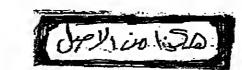
When they had eaten together it pleased them both To stare at each other's beauty as lovers might, Achilles bailt like a god. Priam good-looking still And full of conversation, who earlier had sighed:

I get down on my hands and knees and do what must be done And kiss Achilles' hand, the killer of my son.

Michael Longley, the third TS Eliot Prize short-listed poet to be featured in the Daily Poem this week, was the Poetry Book Society Choice last summer for his collection The Ghost Orchid (Cape). It is magical verse, whether Longley's pen is poised in his easy and free translations of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, or in creating tiny, deft, calligraphic miniatures of words and movement. Just ahead of the announcement of the winner, Michael Longley and his nine fellow short-listed poets will be reading at the Almeida Theatre, Ishington, London N1, on Sunday 14 January.

Ticket Offer

The Independent, with the Poetry Book Society and the Almeida Theatre, is pleased to make an exclusive two-for-one readers' offer to attend the readings by the TS Eliot short-listed poets. The readings will take place at the Almeida Theatre on Sunday 14 January from 7pm. Ticket prices are £4 or £6. To take advantage of this offer, simply call the Almeida on 0171-359 4404 quoting "Independent Offer". Independent readers will also be offered discounted membership of the Poetry Book Society in Saturday's edition, and a complete set of the short-listed books will be available to the first 10 applicants.



Nicholson's return: 'Come on in, the water's lovely,' convert tells old colleagues



Determined Nicholson runs gauntlet

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

With a string in his nose like a pig going to market" was Emma Nicholson's most graphic description yesterday of the pull of the Tory right on the Prime Minister.

That damning put-down, de-livered on ITN's lunchtime news during a packed day of media appearances, ranked if anything worse on the Richter scale of Tory disapproval that anything she said about her more obvious enemy, Michael Portillo. The Defence Secretary was, to paraphrase, a cowardly gangster, or cowardly creep, depending on the broadcast.

The Devon West & Torridge

Like Admiral of the Fleet, Lord Hill-Norton, she thought him "something like" a creep. only a cowardly one as well be-

Tory party behind it.

cause he didn't like the flak. Several interviews later, it was back to her Pimlico flat for a hairdo, before meetings with her secretary Barbara Stevens and Archie Kirkwood, the Liberal Democrat chief whip.

MP had risen at 6am with a

steely determination. Within the

hour she was over at the BBC

Radio 4 Today studio, pouring

scorn on Mr Portillo's tenth an-

niversary celebration at Lon-

don's Alexandra Palace and

lashing out at the "Portillo

gang" which was dragging the

Stephen's entrance came a chance encounter with Alan Howarth, the Stratford-upon-Avon defector to Labour. Prepare to run a very unpleasant gauntlet he warned through an

Ms Nicholson urged erstwhile Tory colleagues: "Come on in, the water's lovely. Once you have swum through the filth spewed out by Central Office. you find you're in clean water and you can swim freely and say what you think."

Eschewing what the Liberal Democrats decided would be a "tacky" grand entrance to the Commons chamber, the MP

On the way to an 11.30 pho-tocall at Westminster's St prayers by Mr Kirkwood and prayers by Mr Kirkwood and Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrat foreign affairs and defence spokesman.

She remained in her seat flanked by successive minders through defence and Prime Minister's questions until after Home Office minister Ann Widdecombe had completed her statement on the shackling of pregnant Holloway prisoners.

Only Nicholas Soames, the defence minister, felt moved to make a joke at the expense of a heleaguered government. "May I wish you a happy new year Madam Speaker." he told Betty Boothroyd "as indeed do all wings of the Tory party".

Ms Widdecombe's performance meanwhile served to reinforce Ms Nicholson's belief that all the bile and opprobrium from former colleagues had been worth it. "I found fthe statement) quite shocking in its

divorce from the feelings of

most people in a civilised soci-

she said afterwards. ety," she said afterwares.
"She just kept repeating like a mantra that the medical profession could recognise when labour was about to begin as if that were somehow a justification. I almost felt I was living in

"On the opposition benches you can see the harshness and the somehow galling laughter of some of the men behind her."

Defiant Major tries to focus Tories on poll

DONALD MACINTYRE Political Editor

John Major yesterday launched a valiant effort to focus his par-ty on the coming electoral battle with Labour, as its latest defector. Emma Nicholson, took her Commons seat among delighted Liberal Democrat

Mr Major brushed aside calls from Tony Blair, the Labour leader, for an immediate election and opposition gibes about Miss Nicholson's departure to declare that Labour had no response to the economic prospects that lie ahead of us". Mr Major went out of his way to reassure his own supporters

that the Government had every chance of lasting a full term by asserting that the Government's legitimacy might have something to do with the largest popular vote ever recorded at the last election - and a majority in this House".

He declared of Miss Nicholson's defection, which has sparked off a fresh wave of infighting between the party's about. They are now heing of Japan's rail net left and right wings: "I believe solved to a better extent than at public ownership.

which she will come to regret. But she has made her decision decision both in the short term and the long term."

The exchanges came as government whips - inevitably taking some of the blame for the second defection within three months - discreetly sought to assure MPs in their charge that any MPs with doubts would be received sympathetically if they wanted to talk them over. The move is designed to prevent any further defections after that of Miss Nicholson and the bornagain Labour MP Alan

Mr Major declared: "As far as the matters of concern to the people of this country are concerned, I will say what they are: mortgage rates, the lowest for 30 years; the basic rate of tax, the lowest for 50 years; unemployment falling more rapidly here than anywhere else in Europe; inflation, lower than for 50 years. These are the matters you used to attack this party

that she has made a decision any stage in the past and you have no response.

Mr Blair condemned Mr Maand she will have to live with her jor for having once again - in a weekend interview - raised the prospect of privatising the Post Office and asked: "Isn't it obvious the only reason Post Office privatisation is back on the agenda is to placate that fac-tion of the Conservative Party that wants to privatise anything and everything.

"Isn't it precisely because the whole husiness of your Government is now about pleasing that faction of the Conservative Party, that the country has given up on the Conservatives as a serious party of government?"

Mr Major provoked a fresh Labour onslaught by suggesting that on his recent trip to the Far East Mr Blair might have done well if he had travelled on the privatised Japanese railway. which you and your colleagues oppose". Brian Wilson, a abour transport spokesman swiftly responded in a letter saying that more than 80 per cent of Japan's rail network was in

Chaining women backed

HEATHER MILLS Home Affairs Correspondent

Ministers have rejected hospi-tal proposals which would have ended the controversial practice of shackling pregnant women prisoners to prevent escapes.

Medical staff had offered to take midwifery services into Holloway prison, north London, rather than force the mothersto-be to wear chains when they attended Whittington hospital for ante-natal care.

But yesterday Anne Widdecombe, prisons minister, defended the shackling policy, which has caused a furore since prison inspectors walked out of Holloway prison in disgust at "over-zealous" security and appalling conditions. She said it strained when she was having was better for the women to attend hospital.

Ms Widdecombe told the Commons shackles were necessary to prevent prisoners from escaping. "Some MPs may like to think that a pregnant woman would not or could not escape.

Unfortunately this is not true. The fact is that hospitals are not secure places in which to keep prisoners, and since 1990. 20 women have escaped from

hospitals". Secretly filmed footage. broadcast on Channel 4 last week, showed a Holloway prisoner, named only as Annette.

shackled to warders only an

hour after giving hirth. Wit-

nesses said she had been re-

contractions. Ms Widdecombe said it was

not policy to restrain women during labour and claimed that in Annette's case, once full labour had been established, she had not been shackled.

The Prison Service has a duty of care to the mother, but this must be halanced against the needs of the service to keep all prisoners, including pregnant women prisoners, in secure custody," she said.

Jack Straw, Labour's Home Affairs spokesman, said it was degrading and unnecessary for a woman to be shackled at any stage of labour. He said that no prisoner in labour had ever

Bill 'could protect regimes of terror'

ichael Howard's white list of countries whose Citizens he believes at no serious risk of persecution could be used as a "mask of respectability" behind which human rights abuses continued unchecked, a Commons committee was told yesterday.

Opposition MPs on the committee currently dissecting the Asylum and Immigration Bill are pressing for safeguards to the summary treatment proposed for would-he refugees

from countries on the list.

"In their absence, we are putting at risk the lives and the bodies as well as the liberties of applicants for whom we get it wrong," Keith Hill, Labour MP for Streatham, said. "The effect of what is proposed by the Government) is to override indi-vidual rights in favour of collective convenience."

Doug Henderson, a Labour bome affairs spokesman, and David Alton, the sole Liberal Democrat on the committee, pointed to the persecution of the Christian minority in Pakistan including the killing of a man for allegedly writing hlasphemous remarks on the wall of a mosque. Pakistan is one of seven countries on the list of designated countries whose citizens will be dealt with on a fast track system with only rudimentary appeal rights if they try to settle in Britain.

Mr Henderson said it was "hizarre" that Pakistan had been included on the list. He proposed amendments intended to ensure immigration officials did not take a "blanket" approach to all applicants from "white list" countries but looked at cases on merit. Romania

15.

□ Opposition raises fears over asylum legislation

Blair calls

for election after defection and Bulgaria are also on the list, despite document evidence of legitimise a practice which has

ill-treatment of gypsy minorities. Tory MPs, who tend to say little on committees and concentrate on their mail, reacted angrily when Diane Abbott Labour MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington, said that while the expertise on minori-ties at risk was "limitless" at mandarin level; the cierical and executive grade staff who took decisions at the airports did not have that expertise. Cases were

Inside **Parliament**

Stephen Goodwin

just "shovelled through", she

Challenged by Timothy Kirkhope, a junior Home Office minister, to disassociate himself from Ms Abbott's remarks, Mr Henderson suggested she meant officials were hard-

An immigration official had told him that even before the list was leaked in the autumn, the merits of individual applications from countries on it frequently were not taken into account, Mr Henderson said. "The Government are trying to House."

already been taking place." Mr Alton dwelt on the danger of the white list being seen as a "blessing" from the British parliament that a country had

a clean human rights record. Countries could use inclusion just as China used British support for its population control programme as evidence of a "clean bill of health" despite the latest "horrendous" evidence of children being starved to death in its orphanages, Mr Alton said. So far China is not on the Home Secretary's list.

the first Prime Minister's Question Time of the new term brought calls, led by Tony Blair, for an election and sniping at the defector, Emma Nicholson, who took her seat on the Liberal Demo-

Labour's Paul Flynn, MP for Newport West questioned the democratic legitimacy of a prime minister who had "lost the last vote in this House (on fishing policy, who has lost every by-election in the country by a mile and is now being abandoned by some of his most

honourable members." But Mr Major had an obvi-ous answer. To Tory cheers, he replied: I think the legitimacy might have something to do with the largest popular vote ever recorded at the last election - and a majority in this

Number 10 press secretary appointed

DONALD MACINTYRE

Jonathan Haslam, a 43-year-old career official in the Government Information Service, has been appointed the Prime Min-ister's chief press secretary in place of Christopher Meyer, who is to become the new Ambassador in Bonn.

Mr Meyer, 51, an urbane Russian expert with a wide range of Foreign Office experience, has secured one of the most important embassy postings after two years in the job as Mr Major's top spokesman. Mr Haslam worked loyally for Mr Major as deputy to both Mr Meyer and his predecessor, Gus O' Donnell, who now holds

a senior post in the Treasury. He is currently head of information at the Ministry of Agriculture. Mr Meyer - never less than comprehensively well informed - has managed to combine rohustness and subtlety in his treatment of political journal-ists. But he has been scrupulous

in his job to become drawn into party political conflict. The announcement of his appointment to the emhassy in Bonn is one of a series of changes to key postings in Europe-related jobs in the Foreign Service. Michael Jay, the senior official for EU affairs in London, is to become amhassador in Paris and both men are like-

ly to be in their posts until well

in resisting the many pressures

after the next general election. Whitehall sources said last night that Mr Haslam has been promoted to grade 3 in the Civil Service and given a two-year appointment - though that does not impose any obligation on Tony Blair, the Labour leader, to retain him if he wins the next election.

There is widespread speculation that Mr Blair would make a political appointment by putting Alastair Campbell, his current press secretary, into

Mr Haslam, a thorough and experienced operator, who has worked in the industry and employment departments as well as the Home Office, could then be moved into another senior Civil Service joh.



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Major to attack IRA role

The Prime Minister will protest Northern Ireland against drug tomorrow to Senator George Mitchell, chairman of the international body dealing with decommissioning IRA arms, about the IRA's alleged involvement in killings in Northern Ireland.

writes Colin Brown. John Major will tell Senator Mitchell and the commission at Downing Street that the con-tinued violence by the IRA in ist legislation last night.

dealers and minor criminals is threatening the peace process. Sir Patrick Mayhew, Secre-

tary of State for Northern Ireland, announced yesterday that Lord Lloyd of Berwick, a Law Lord, will carry out a fundamental review of anti-terrorist laws. Labour refused to endorse the renewal of the anti-terror-

SATES ARE VARIABLE. THE RATE GUOTED IS RAVAGLE ON BALANCES OF CS.000 OR MORE IN A VARIABLE SATE TESSA, ISSUE 2; OTHER INTEREST PATES APPLY ON DIFFERENT BALANCES INTEREST PAID ANNUALLY, OR MONTHLY ON INVESTMENTS OF OVER E3.000, MINIMUM HYESTMENT OF E1,000 FOR NEW INVESTORS, INTEREST IS CALCULATED DATA FROM THE DAY FOLLOWING RECEIPT UP TO AND INCLUDING THE DAY BEFORE WITHORAWAL, EXCEPT FOR INVESTMENTS MADE BY CHEDUE WHERE INTEREST IS -CALCULATED FROM THE FOURTH BANKING DAY FOLLOWING RECEIPT (SATURDAYS, RUNDAYS AND RANK HOLIDAYS ARE NOT SANKING DAYS) PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TESSA SISSUE 31 IS A NEW ACCOUNT, ONLY MADE AVAILABLE TO CUSTOMERS FROM I JANUARY 1898. THE RAYES DUDTED ABOVE ARE DNLY PAYABLE TO TESSA SISSUE 21 CUSTOMERS CUSTOMERS WHO OPENED TESSAB PRIOR TO 1 JANUARY 1898 SHOULD CONTACT THEIR LOCAL BRANCH FOR DETAILS OF THEIR INTEREST RAYES, DECEMBER 1995, FULL

international

Chechen hostage crisis: Expert says feeble Russian forces faced near-impossible task trying to keep out rebel raiding party

Border troops 'had no chance'

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY

Russia's armed forces, facing an avalanche of criticism for fail-ing to defend the southern frontier of the Federation against yesterday's Chechen incursion, were given a near-impossible task, say military experts.

The rebels reached Kizlyar, deep in what should be secure Russian territory. There were suggestions the Russians let them in deliberately to justify a renewed offensive against the Chechens. But a former British Army officer who was in the area last month said the Russians were so badly organised and equipped they did not stand a chance of stopping the Chechens slipping across the vast and frozen expanses of the plains south of Grozny and north into Dagestan.

Colonel Charles Blandy said: "Given the quality of personnel the Russians have there I don't think they had a chance. They have an appalling standard of training ... Little things like the security at checkpoints. There are no trenches, nothing."

After 13 months, during which the Russians flattened the Chechen capital, Grozny, 200 to 400 Chechen rebels have managed to trick or fight their way between 50 and 100 miles from their hide-outs across the border into neighbouring Dagestan and north to Kizlyar, taking more than 1,000 people

The raiding party is said to be part of a group called Lone Wolf, founded last year by Salman Raduyev, son-in-law of the rebel leader, Dzhokhar Dudayev, who is in hiding in the

President Boris Yeltsin yesterday vented his anger on the Russian Border Guards, who are responsible for defending international borders and who are also deployed on the borders of the unstable republics within the Russian Federation.

Russian security sources were at a loss to explain how a significant force of Chechen rehels moved so far, past what Mr Yeltsin said were "thonsands" of Russian Army troops and Border Guards, who should have had modern surveillance technology, and to reach the River Terek, which was reported to be under Chechen fire. During the fighting in

Grozny a year ago the Russians obliterated resistance in the city and pushed south towards the icy barrier of the Caucasus mountains. But the rebels held out in what has long been recognised as some of the most perfect country for guerrilla warfare.

Chechnya's population was about 1 million.

An estimated 90 per cent of the surviving males of military age bear arms, giving the Chechens up to 150,000 men. Women and children are reported to be sheltering in the mountains but the men still control the villages south of Grozny and the road to Gudermes.

The Chechen war effort is still being directed by Aslan Maskhadov, the chief of staff, who masterminded the defence of Grozny.

Last week a new hardline Russian commander, General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, was appointed. Yesterday he told Russian radio: "I don't negoti-ate with handit chiefs of staff", a reference to Mr Maskhadov. His predecessor, Lientenant-General Anatoly Romanov. who had reached an understanding with Mr Maskhadov, was injured in a bomh attack in October; he is still in hospital in Moscow.

The Chechens appear to be well supplied: many of their weapons were inherited from the former Soviet army when General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister, ordered a withdrawal from Chechnya in 1992. In addition, the Chechen mafia in Moscow and other cities have been sending mon-Before the recent fighting ey to aid the rebel cause.



Kremlin fall-out: President Yeltsin at yesterday's emergency meeting. 'How can we understand you, generals? Are you playing games?' he raged

'Bandit band' shows it can strike at will

Kto vinovat? asks the classic Russian question. Who is

The seizure yesterday of more than 1,000 civilian hostages by Chechen rebels in southern Russia left President Boris Yeltsin incandescent with fury at the incompetence of his military and security service

"How can we understand you, generals? Are you playing games? Several thousand servicemen were in the rebels' path but they still passed through," he raged at a meeting of ministers called to deal with the emergency.

The rebel raid on the town of Kiziyar was all the more humiliating because it was only last week that the Kremlin appointed a new commander, General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov. to conduct operations against the Chechen insurgents. In remarks likely to return to haunt him, the general pre-dicted an end to the Chechen war by this summer because "these are just a hand of armed bandits who are oppressing and degrading their people". The problem for Mr Yeltsin

is that, 13 months after his armed forces launched their crackdown in Chechnya, rebel units still seem capable of selecting targets at will and carrying out devastating attacks. The Kizlyar raid was almost a carbon copy of an assault in June on Budyonnovsk, where more than 100 people were killed in a hostage drama that lasted almost a week.

Spy chief

takes

over from

Kozyrev

President Boris Yeltsin vester-

the nead of Russia's foreign in-

from the nationalist and Com-

Mr Primakov is an experi-

enced specialist in foreign af-

fairs, and in the Soviet era held

senior positions in the Com-

munist Party and academic

he was Mr Gorbachev's special

the task of averting war between the West and President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.
After the failed Communist

Gorhachev appointed Mr Primakey to run the foreign intel-

ligence service of the former KGB. The fact that Mr Yeltsin kept Mr Primakov in this job af-

ter the demise of the Soviet

Union suggests he valued his knowledge of the world and in-

Mr Yeltsin's staff said last

week that Mr Kozyrev's departure would not change Russia's

foreign policy. Under Russia's constitution the President plays

the most important part in fashioning foreign policy. How-ever, Mr Primakov does not

have the pro-Western profile of Mr Kozyrev. His appointment

may soothe critics of the President's foreign policy in the Russian parliament, Mr Pri-

makov can be expected to support Mr Yeltsin's efforts to

prevent the expansion of Nato into Central and Eastern Eu-

rope and to continue improving elations with China, one of Russia's diplomatic successes. Mr Primakov was born in

ciev, the capital of Ukraine. He

oined the Communist Party in

1959 and was a columnist from

1962 to 1970 on the Asia and

Africa desk of the party news-

paper. Pravda. He held two prestigious aca-

demic posts in the 1970s and

1980s, as director of the Insti-

tute of Oriental Studies in

Moscow and as head of the In-stitute of World Economy and

International Relations. It was

not until 1989 that he entered

the Communist Party's policy-

The major event of his time

as chief of the espionage service was the revelation that Russia

had recruited a CIA spy,

Aldrich Ames, viewed widely as

one of the most harmful dou-

hle agents in US history.

making Central Committee.

telligence matters.

TONY BARBER

Foreign Minister.

munist opposition.

Europe Edito:

A month ago a prominent rebel commander, Aslan Maskhadov, masterminded an attack on Gudermes, Chechnya's second-largest city. The guerrillas stayed there a week and the fighting was so violent that, according to Interfax news agency, more than 500 apartment blocks were ruined.

Scarcely a day passes now without a report of Russian milday named Yevgeny Primakov. itary casualties in this turbulent corner of the land. For examtelligence service, as his new ple, last Thursday one soldier Mr Primakov, 66. replaces was killed and six wounded Andrei Kozyrev, who resigned when guerrilias blew up an arlast week following years of critmoured troop carrier near the icism of his pro-Western policies Chechen capital of Grozny.

In all, about 2,000 Russian servicemen have been killed in Chechnya since December 1994 a rate that matches that suffered by Soviet forces after they invaded Afghanistan in

1979. Civilian casualties have been even higher. Visdimir Rubance, deputy secretary of Russia's Security Council, which has co-ordinated the compaign in Chechnya, estimates that 20,000 to 30,000 have been

Sel

sal

to

wit

killed in the conflict.

Despite the ferocity of its effort, the Russian army has failed to break the spirit of Chechen resistance or to force the rebels to seek a compromise peace. None of the main secessionist leaders, from Dzhokhar Dudayev, the republic's President, to Shamil Basavev, who led the assault on Budvonnovsk has been captured or killed.

The Russians' task is made especially hard by the fact that the Chechens do not operate under a single command but are made up of seemingly self-sufficient groups. The band that attacked Kizlyar is called Lone Wolf, and its audacity clearly. stunned Mr Yeltsin.

In October he said the Chechen crisis was the biggest disappointment of his presidency, and it would appear he underestimated the difficulty of subduing a nation accustomed to resisting Moscow's authoritv. It is a crisis that cries out for negotiated settlement, verthe Kiziyar raid has almost certainly damaged what prospects existed for an early peace.

With Russia five months from a critically important presidential election, it will be virtually impossible for either Mr Yeltsin or any other candidate to advocate compromise with the Chechens.

Briefly last summer it appeared the Kremlin was considering a deal with the Chechens. The Budyonnovsk raid prompted the Prime Minister, Viktor Chernemyrdin, to take control of the crisis and ha agreed a truce with the rebels.

However, Moscow's preferred option still seems to be force, a point underlined by Mr Yeltsin last year when, in the company of President Bill Clinton at Halifax, Nova Scotia, he denounced Chechnya as "a world centre of terrorism, corruption, bribery and the mafia".

For their part, the Chechens have not budged from their demand that all Russian troops should leave the republic, and their hopes of independence remain very much alive.

Tony Barber



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Serb snipers say farewell to Sarajevo with bullets

EMMA DALY

One man was killed and six people, including a six-year-old boy, were wounded yesterday in an attack on a tram in central Sarajevo that came hours before the expiry of a deadline imposed by rebellious Serbs desperate to

rewrite the Dayton peace plan. French Nato troops deployed along Sniper Alley returned fire with 20mm cannon towards the Serh-held suburb of Grbavica, which is due to revert to government control next month under the peace plan. The soldiers reported a stream of sniper fire coming from Grbavica, some 200 yards from Sniper Alley across the Miljacka river, and dispatched a patrol to seek the source.

The first Sarajevan to die since the peace plan was signed in December lay on a carpet of glass on the floor of the tram, his body covered by a brown blanket. A six-year-old boy. Nedim Corovic, sat in the emergency room at Kosevo hospital, hlood on his T-shirt. Like the five others injured when a rocket-propelled grenade crashed through the roof of the tram, he

At the time of the attack the tram driver, Mehtiba Dzevlan, was at a stop opposite the Holiday Inn. She told passengers to get off, then drove on to the nearest first aid post: "I did not expect this to happen. We'll see if they [1-For] do anything dif-ferent from the UN."

A spokesman for I-For, the Nato implementation Force. said French troops who were forced into a gun battle with the Serbs would continue their investigations. "We view this as a serious, senseless and cowardly attempt to disrupt the peace process," Major Simon Haselock said.

The Serb leadership, represented by Momeilo Krajisnik, the Serb assembly speaker, as Radovan Karadzic is barred from contact with 1-For as a suspected war criminal, wrote to Admiral Leighton Smith, the 1-For commander, demanding that he postpone until 15 September the hand-over of five suburbs around Sarajevo to the Muslim-led government.

Mr Krajisnik warned that without such a postponement. which he wanted confirmed by today, there would be a mass ex-Yesterday several explosions



Peace derailed: Government soldiers inspect a tram hit by Serb snipers in Sarajevo in which a man was killed

rocked Grhavica and other suburbs as Serb forces apparently blew up and set fire to huildings. At dusk, four fires could be seen burning in the hills north of the city. One large building was razed, its beams hurning furiously for at least two hours.

explosions could not say what had been burnt but speculated that the destruction was a dramatic farewell by Serbs who are furious about their losses, "I'm so angry about every-

azed, its beams hurning furi-busly for at least two hours.

I-For troops investigating the

thing that I have no words for the wall of his a vou, said one Serb man stand-ing in the back of a lorry filled into the lorry.

with his furniture, as he prepared to leave Grbavica.

"I'm leaving with my family and where I go is my husiness, he said. A hroom, an ironing board and a sledge leant against the wall of his apartment block. A friend helped to heave a table

Last month. Serbs in the five suburbs said they would not stay

without guarantees of safety. The Bosnian government vesterday issued an amnesty to an amnesty to keep me here in all Serb soldiers except those who are listed as war criminals.

However, the Muslim government's gesture failed to impress

"It's rubbish. We lost out es on the other side and that to leave here too."

Photograph: Globenet those Serbs who live in

"Why should we need their amnesty?" the man asked, "It's prison," added the man's friend. "It's rubbish. We lost our houses on the other side and now we

Walesa asks for his old job back

ADRIAN BRIDGE Central Europe Correspondent

Lech Walesa yesterday proved that he has not lost his taste for the unexpected by submitting an extraordinary request to his former employers at the Gdansk shipyard — to give him back

his old joh as an electrician. The unprecedented move. less than a month after the defeated president handed over to the former Communist Aleksander Kwasniewski, appeared on one level to be a protest about money. According to Mr Walesa's wife, Danuta, although her husband was now entitled to a full-time bodyguard, he would only be drawing his old presidential salary for a further three months, then he would receive nothing. "He must earn money to support the family." the mother of eight said from the family home in Gdansk.

Technically, Mr Walesa, President for five years, has been on an extended leave of absence from the firm once known as the Lenin shipyard, where he used to repair electric cart engines and from which he launched the Solidarity trade union that hrought down Communism.

His former colleagues were incredulous, and delighted, to hear that he may be rejoining them "Walesa is a first-class specialist and we will have him hack with great joy," Piotr Witek, head of the shipyard's repairs section, told Gazeta Wyborcza. If Mr Walesa does return to the shipyard, his monthly salary will be 500-600 zlotys (about £150) - just over half the 1.000 zlotys paid to his bodyguard,

Despite claims of impending penury, few believed Mr Walesa's motive was financial, with many seeing it as part of his wider strategy to reunite Poland's fractured opposition and perbaps even to recreate something of the old Solidarity movement.

Bildt accuses US of undermining Bosnia reconstruction

SARAH HELM

Transatlantic tensions over peace-making in Bosnia erupt-ed vesterday when Carl Bildt, the man in charge of imple-menting the civilian side of the peace deal, attacked the US for deliberately undermining the reconstruction effort.

Speaking in graphic terms, Mr Bildl, the former European peace co-ordinator, took' the stage at a Brussels press conference to describe how his barred; on US orders, from all out to Bosnia in a suitcase.

former United Nations facilities in Zagreh and Sarajevo. As a result, he said, they had been forced to grovel for shelter and telephone lines as they at-tempted to establish a presence in the former Yugoslavia.

"We have had to negotiate for every single telephone line and single metre of office space," he said, describing the situation in Sarajevo as more divided than Berlin during the Cold War, Mr Bildt told how he personally had withdrawn 300,000 German marks from an EU account reconstruction learn had been fast week and carried the notes

Mr Bildt was hitting back at stinging criticism from Washington that he and fellow Europeans have dithered in setting up the rebuilding side of the peace operation. Washington has proudly acclaimed the success so far of 1-For, the military Implementation Force, which is US-led and involves the de-ployment of 60,000 Nato troops. But American officials have let

Europeans have been slack and indecisive in fulfilling their role.

Mr Bildt, appointed as High Representative for reconstruc-

it be known that they believe the

office in Sarajevo. Yesterday Mr Bildt pointed out that he could not have set up his operation faster without ready facilities

and money.

The UN has largely withdrawn from Sarajevo and Zagreh. However, Mr Bildi said bitterly yesterday, the US has taken over the many fully equipped UN facilities for the military operation, while barring the European reconstruction

Mr Bildt aims to have a team of about 50 in Sarajevo and 30 tion in December, has been sin- in Brussels, hul arrangements

gled out for failing to set up his have been further hampered by an extreme shortage of money. European funds for reconstruction - now totalling 12.1bn ecus (£10.1bn) - have been slow in flowing and no money between the has yet come from the US or Europeans and the US over the

on reconstruction so far has been done by the Europeans," Behind the row lies a histo-

elsewhere outside Europe. credit for peace in former

"Everything that has been done Yugoslavia. Since the start of the US-led peace initiative, the Europeans have voiced caution about Washington's optimism. Mr Bildt warned that, whatever the military achievements, reconcilization between the par-ties was still a long way off.

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Hong Kong talks unruffled by orphans

TERESA POOLE

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday urged China to be open about conditions m its orphanages. He said he had told his counterpart, Qian Qichen "that the best way in which China could reassure the world that there were no abuses at these orphanages was to allow complete transparency. completely open contact to show that there was nothing to hide. And we very much hope that that kind of assurance can

Mr Rifkind was speaking after more than two hours of dis- Prime Minister, Li Peng, and

which both sides appeared to with President Jiang Zemin. have decided not to let Peking's In his first visit as Foreign Secanger over last night's screening of the Channel 4 documentary Return to the Dying Rooms disrupt negotiations over Hong Kong. Despite ear-lier warnings that the programme was "certainly harmful for the environment of these discussions", the foreign ministry spokesman. Chen Jian, later characterised the meeting as "frank and pragmatic" and its outcome "beneficial".

In a sign that Sino-British relations continue to improve, the Chinese confirmed that Mr Rifkind would today meet the

retary to China, Mr Rifland said he had raised a number of human rights issues with Mr Qian including the recent Human Rights Watch report on Chinese orphanages, the 14-year jail sentence for the dissident Wei Jingsheng, and Tibet.

fended its position that there was no abuse of the country's orphans "in very robust terms, but at no time was it implied that the subject matter of the programme would have any implications for the relations between the British and Chinese governments". Earlier in the week a Chinese embassy official

The Chinese side had de-

in London was quoted as saying screening the documen-tary which included the Human Rights Watch findings, would "poison" relations.

With regard to Wei Jingsheng," said Mr Rifkind, "we emphasised our view... that the sentence imposed upon him seemed very, very harsh in-deed when one thinks of what seems to he the relatively minor offences with which he was charged." Mr Qian repeated the Chinese position that the sentence was "justified".
Mr Rifkind also raised "the

subject of Tibet and the need for dialogue with the Tibetans and, if possible, with the Dalai Lama

On resolving outstanding is- informed that the Chinese govsues over Hong Kong, he re- ernment can accept whatever ported progress in five areas. the companies [in the port con-The most important of these was a commitment from Mr sortium themselves agree. That is very satisfactory," said Mr Rifkind. Oian "that all those persons with permanent resident status There was also agreement

who are now in Hong Kong will that the Preparatory Committee which will set up the post-1997 government will establish continue to have resident status after 1997". Although the liaison with the present Hong question was posed after concerns were raised by Hong Kong businessmen without the Kong government. A minute was signed over China's arrangements for issuing the right to Chinese nationality, post-1997 Hong Kong pass-ports which will enable London Mr Rifkind said he understood it would also to apply to ethnic Chinese with foreign passports. to decide within two to three Peking had also agreed to give months whether such passport the go-shead to the "vexed holders will be allowed visa entry into the UK. question" of the stalled CT9

Mr Riffend made no headway

to scrap Hong Kong's Legisla-tive Council when the colony reverts to China. "I made it clear that in our view the dismantle-

foreign ministry said Taiwan was "a very sensitive issue" in Sino-

meat of the Legislative Council would serve no useful hope that the converge government will reconsider their cur- . Chris Patten has used the Forrent position." Mr Chen said the Chinese decision "remains unanged and will not change". China expressed "grave concem and strong displeasure" at Washington's decision to grant transit visas to the Taiwanese Vice-President Li Yuan-zu. The

Patten

STEPHEN VINES Hong Kong

eign Secretary's visit to impress on him the need for a resolute established by the outgoing colonial power.

Elements within the Foreign Office remain deeply sceptical of Mr Patten's ideas and had appeared to be winning the battle to keep the Governor in the background. Mr Rifkind's visit to Hong Kong has clearly marked the failure of this effort.

He left Hong Kong issuing a dire warning of the "extremely damaging" consequences of China's proposal to dismantle the colony's elected legislature once it resumes sovereignty on 1 July next year. The Foreign Secretary has not spoken quite so hluntly about this in the past and indicated he would raise this matter in meetings with the Chinese leadership.

However, Mr Rifkind indirectly acknowledged that Britain had little with which to persuade China to change its policy. The main bargaining chip was China's "overwhelming interest for Hong Kong to be a success". He warned: "if they are insensitive, they will be shooting themselves in the foot". That is unlikely to be well received by Peking, which has assembled a group of Hong Kong notables who claim that there is no demand for more representative government.

The Hong Kong visit has caused some problems for the telling them that the colony had determined its own policy for making the territory a port of first asylum for Vietnamese boat people, and was therefore responsible for solving the

Legislators pointed out that the policy was imposed by Britain, which determines foreign policy for its colonies.

There was also anger over Mr Rifland's suggestion that Hong Kong people have never been entitled to full British Photograph: AFP citizenship.



Survivors and local villagers gather round the wreckage of a train crash in the Chandpur district of south-east Bangladesh, in which 16 people were killed

Zaire crash aircraft 'was overloaded'

Kinshasa — The Russian crew of a cargo plane that crashed into a crowded market in the Zaire capital on Monday, killing 264 people, was in protective custody as an inquiry began. Preliminary reports indicated the Russian-built Antonov 32 may have been overloaded. The aircraft crashed seconds after take-off from Kinshasa's Ndolo airport, skidded across a busy street and thundered through an open-air market. Airport authorities said the plane was carrying engine oil, wheat flour and salted fish bound for Jonas Savimhi's Unita organisation in Angola.

North Korea famine reports disputed

Seoul - Disputing reported prospects of mass starvation in North Korea, a South Korean official said the Communist state is not expected to face famine until the middle of the year. UN relief officials returning from North Korea reported widespread hunger after flooding last summer. But South Korea said dire predictions do not take into account vast military stockpiles Py-

Spy swap lawyer jailed for extortion

Berlin - Wolfgang Vogel, the East Berlin lawyer who engineered Cold War spy swaps, was convicted of extorting money from East German emigrants eager to flee to the West. Vogel was found guilty of perjury, four counts of blackmail and five counts of fal-sifying documents. He was given a two-year suspended sentence and a 92,000 mark (£41,400) fine.

Mafia boss exposes Andreotti link

Padua - An informer told a court that he could have exposed Giulio Andreotti, the former Italian prime minister, as someone with Mafia links more than 10 years ago but feared efforts would be made to discredit his evidence. The witness, Tommaso Buscetta, the first boss to expose the Sicilian Mafia's inner workings, turned state's evidence in 1984.

Caribbean 'no dump for dissidents'

London - Britain's deportation of the Saudi dissident Mohammed al-Masari to Dominica could cause civil unrest and be blocked by parliament, according to Rosie Douglas, leader of the oppo-sition Labour Party on the Caribbean island. Whitehall acted after pressure from Saudi Arabia and UK defence firms to curb Mr Masari's campaign against the Saudi regime."The Caribbean is not the dumping ground for dissidents," Mr Douglas

Turkish leftists kill 3 to avenge jail riot deaths

HUGH POPE

Left-wing urhan guerrillas struck at the heart of the Turkish establishment yesterday, murdering a member of the popular Sahanci business dvnasty in apparent revenge for the police killing of three comrades in brutal jail riots.

First reports said the attack at the Sahanci Centre skyscraper in Istanbul was carried out by a woman with a silenced gun who penetrated the landmark building, possibly in league with the tea lady. The attacker shot dead Ozdemir Sabanci, 54, the Manchestertrained head of the family's car making husiness.

The intruder also killed Haluk Gorgun, head of the Sabancis' joint-venture carmaking plant with Toyota, and Nilgun Hasefe, personal assis-tant to the dynasty's leading fig-ure, Sakip Sabanci. Sakip and others of the five Sahanci brothers were apparently on the ex-ecutive floor at the time.

Responsibility was claimed by the Revolutionary People's Liberation Party-Front (DHKP-

of the far-left groups whose roots go back to the Turkish po-

litical violence of the 1970s. The DHKP-C emerged in 1995 as the most dangerous and best organised left-wing group in Turkey, staging 178 violent incidents. The group has made a speciality of revolts in Turkish prisons. Three DHKP-C members were killed last Thursday when a rehellion in the Umraniye-Uskudar jail was sup-pressed by security forces.

The government suspended two senior officials at the Istanhul jail on Monday pending an investigation. This led to the release of all thehostages and a return to normal yesterday. Turkey's secular establish-

ment received a second blow yesterday when President Suleyman Demirel gave the pro-Islamist Welfare Party the first chance to form a government from the divided parliament elected on 24 December.

The Welfare Party leader, Necmettin Erbakan, has no obvious coalition partners and President Demirel said after meeting leaders of all five parliamentary parties that "unless somebody comes to me with a C), an offshoot of Dev Sol, one government ready on paper, I by police and kicked and



Police lifting a prisoner into an ambulance near Ankara after suppressing a jail riot

will not approve it." "Such is the price of stub-bornness," screamed a banner headline in the nationalist daily Hurriyet, blaming Mr Erbakan's success on the feud between the two leaders of the

ing Prime Minister. Turks hope the 1970s-style political deadlock will not be accompanied by 1970s-style political violence, and that the military stays watching from the sidelines.

centre-right, Mesut Yilmaz and

Tansu Ciller, who stays on as act-

Left-wing passions have been inflamed by police actions, in-cluding the forcible burisl without funerals of the prisoners killed in last week's riots. During the stand-off, hundreds of would-be mourners and demonstrators were rounded up Photograph: AFP

punched as they were herded, hands over their heads, into a nearby sports stadium.

Turkish commentators did not side with the prisoners. The liberal daily Yuzyil blamed backward Turkish laws for mining violent terrorists with prisoners of conscience.

The economy is giving con-flicting signals. GNP growth ran at over 7 per cent in 1995 and foreign investment reached a record high, while inflation is still over 80 per cent and the IMF has suspended its stand-by

But the Turkish left-wing commentator Ahmet Altan thought there was a deeper malaise. "A beaten army and a collapsing regime are always dangerous for people," he said. "And in Turkey the regime is hreaking down."

10000 murders uphold SA's name for violence

ROBERT BLOCK

South Africa's designation as the most violent country in the world outside a war zone looks unlikely to change, according to the latest police statistics.

More than 10,000 people were murdered in the first seven months of last year, according to the South African Police Service's National Crime Information Management Centre. In the same period, 1,126,101 serious crimes were reported across the country, excluding the old homelands.

The total includes 46,752 armed robberies, 55,890 cases of car theft, 18,684 rapes, 96,391 aggravated assaults, 90,410 common assaults, and 10,161 murders, an average of one murder every 29 minutes.

While comparative figures for the same period in 1994 were not immediately available, figures for the first six months of 1994 and 1995 showed substantial increases in all violent crimes except murder, which had decreased by per cent in 1995.

Police stress that the figures are preliminary and that they will not know the true picture until later this year. "At the moment we are optimistic that some of the figures, particularly murder, might be on the

decrease," said Reg Crewe, national police spokesman. "We will just have to wait and see." Last year the World Health Organisation named South

Africa as the world's murder capital. And last week the South African National Police Commissioner, George Fivaz, said that unless the police force is given the funds it needs to fight crime, South Africa risks Violence has long plagued South Africa, hut under apartheid the country's whites reassured themselves that it

was mostly confined to hlack townships. While violent crime has now spilled over into the white suburbs, it still affects blacks significantly more than whites. It is estimated that, on average, 15 per cent of a South African's disposable income is spent on security measures. Thousands of young English-speaking white profession-

als are opting to emigrate. While the exodus is hard to measure, the High Commission for Australia, one of the most popular destinations, says it receives around 50 applications a week from would-be migrants.

According to one recent survey, there may be as many as 250,000 white South Africans, or 5 per cent of the total white population, now living abroad. A State of Fear, Section Two

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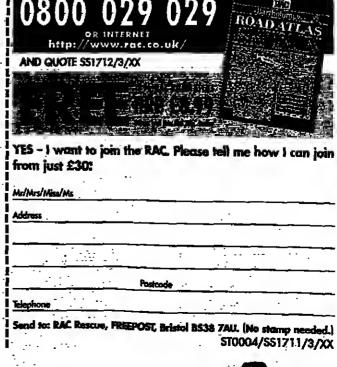
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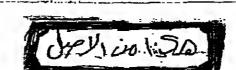
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Ginger makes sure it's Ice Cold in Harlem

I am still trying to defend my actions during the blizzard of of seats. (Yes, I at least had a the century that the weather forecasters have cutely christened "Ginger",

On television they had been saying that my commuter line into New York was working fine. Honest. No mention of crippled carriages and frozen third rails. And the train had pulled into my local station, a ghostly plume of powder behind it. bang on time. Little did I know.

Little did 1 know, for instance, that what I thought was the 8.36 am was actually the 6.36, exactly two hours fate. And little did 1 know, even though 1 have ridden this line for over a year, that once into greater New York, my line loses the overhead electric cahles and switches to that dreaded third rail for power. Third rails are not much good in drifts as big as sand dunes in the Sahara.

Compared with the suffering of some others in the storm our tittle drama was no more than an inconvenience. Even so, 1 never did make it to Grand Central. When finally, we slithered into 125th Street Station in

Big dig-out begins

New York - The north-east United States began digging out yesterday from the bizzard that buried airports, roads and cars, Reuter reports. At least 41 deaths were blamed on the storm. The federal government In Washington remained closed for the second day because of weather, as did schools in New York, Philadelphia and Boston.

. A record 30in fell in Philadelphia and more than 20in accumulated in Manhattan's Central Park, with higher amounts elsewhere in the city. The storm ranked among the top three in New

Harlem, we had been on that train for just over six hours without refreshment, with only one lavatory in a carriage with standing room only, and most-ly without heat. It was nine hours before I made it back home to Connecticut, nothing

achieved. of one of those Hollywood disadded pep to the script that we were almost all well-heeled and cosseted suburbanites from designers, fashion huvers and more traders; people who generally prefer to be in control of

China

starves

babies

by the

thousand

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them, happened to be in my row seat). The first was a sourlooking gentleman with batfmoon glasses who only once unglued his eyes from a copy of the New Yorker to complain that I was disturbing him talking to the news desk in London on my mobile phone, too loudly apparently. Does the whole train have to listen to your telephone conversations?" he

inquired rudely. The other was across the aisle; a younger, athletic-look-ing man with a baseball cap. He did not miss a single opportunity to bark insults at the conductors whenever they passed. accusing them of incompetence and of lying to us about the situation.

"Oh yeah, 15 minutes. Wilt that 15 minutes end today or to-morrow?" or, to white-haired conductor, "Hey, old man, you don't know how to run a railroad. Why don't you retire and go home"

It was probably after about two hours when we had just made it out of Fordham, a stop in the Bronx, that we began to realise that our plight was serious. "We are having trouble making contact with the third rail," came one of the last messages over the address system before all power was lost and even that packed up. "You folks should have stayed at home". Well, yes, we were beginning to get that part.

After some agonising minutes of jerky stops and starts, the train and the third rail finally parted company. And that was that. We were in a shallow cutting, beneath some public housing blocks with a playground hehind a high chicken-wire fence. It wasn't long before the children began to take interest. In small groups, they waded through the snow to peer through the wire at this train that would not move. "Yes, there are people in here. Help us!" a man shouted. For the first time, the whole carriage

laughed.
We laughed again when another man rang home on his mobile and asked his wife if we were on the news. Apparchieved. ently, we were. "Is he ordering pizza?" someone else asked. Then came hope of rescue. A aster movies. "Ice Cold in diesel train was on its way to Harlem", perhaps. or "Ap-take us off our Marie Celeste and pointment with Ginger". It into New York. It would have only five carriages and our train was seventeen long, but they would try to cram us in. About Connecticut's Gold Coast — an hour later, the diesel pulled Wall Street traders, lawyers, up. We whooped with excitement. By now, most of us were freezing at least from the knees

We waited, the diesel roared The trouble-makers, two of and - it chugged away again RUPERT CORNWELL



Great white way: A lone figure battles along in New York's Seventh Avenue - a normally bustling thoroughfare turned into a wilderness by the blizzard Photograph: AP

Not a good moment. The two we all. Only later did I discover that the so-called rescue team on the diesel had forgot-

into the white wastes without us. from our train to theirs. Great. In the end, it was five engi-Japanese gentleman with little neers who tramped down the English in the seats behind line with gas blow-torches who were doubly confused. So were saved us. One by one the contact pads beneath the carriages were thawed of snow and finally, just as the blizzard outside was ten to hring along the little casing, we were on our way. At draw-bridges need for us to get 125th Street only one door

would open. Just opposite it on the platform was a hillboard advertising Jamaican Airlines and teasing us with a beach scene of palms and turquoise waters. Behind me, as we filed off, I head a voice saying: "We were kids when we got on this train".

David Usborne Rows with the grandmother appeal. Five of the seven judges since 1938.

Wife on Death Row spurns clemency plea

JOHN CARLIN Washington

Guinevere Garcia wants to die. Many people, in her shoes, would want to die too. In a week's time the state of Illinois plans to oblige her: Wednesday 17 January is the date scheduled for her execution.

The bald facts of the case are that Garcia, who is 35 and had previously been jailed for killing her baby, shot her husband dead after a drunken quarrel in July 1991. A court sentenced her to death in October 1992.

Against Garcia's explicit wishes. Amnesty International has launched a campaign to deprive her of her dying wish. The Governor of Illinois.

who bas the power to grant a pardon, has been besieged by letters from Amnesty members In response to a formal pe-

tition for clemency co-signed by Bianca Jagger, a member of the Amnesty International Lead-ership Council, the Illinois Prison Review Board meets tomorrow to hear the case for a

When Guinevere Garcia, born Swan, was 18 months old her alcoholic mother plunged to her death from an apartment

Her father abandoned her and her grandparents took her in. When she was six an uncle raped her, which he continued to do for the next five years. Court records show that while the grandmother did nothing to stop the abuse, she did express concern as to whether the un-

cle was wearing a condom.

At 14 the girl was gang-raped by five teenage boys, none of whom was convicted, and shortly afterwards her grandfather sold her in marriage for \$1,500 to an Iranian student who sought legal residency status in the United States.

When she was 15 she became a stripper and a prostitute. When she was 17 she gave hirth - not by her husband - to

over custody of the baby, combined with the fear that her child would inherit the mother's fate, led her to suffocate Sara when

she was 11 months old. In 1983 she pleaded guilty to Sara's murder (she had been arrested in 1981) and was sentenced to 20 years in prison; she served 10. On her release she married George Garcia, who

LOEPT OF CORRECT

Guinevere Garcia: Victim

was 60 and a client from her

It was not a happy marriage.

On one occasion, as medical

of horrific abuse

days as a prostitute.

rectal walls.

lethal injection.

the crime".

properly into account the faclors in mitigation of sentence. Justice Freeman's arguments will form part of the clemency case at tomorrow's prison-

upheld.

board hearing.

Ms Jagger will be among those testifying. In the petition, dated 5 January, which she cowrote with an Illinois prisonrights advocate, she said: "If clemency is refused to Guinevere Garcia, the cycle of violence against this woman is completed and all of us are

concurred with the sentence

which, by majority ruling, was

Justice Freeman, said in a doc-

ument made public in March

last year that the court had been

"clearly wrong" in failing to take

One of the dissenting judges.

shamed ... The execution of Guinevere Garcia is the ultimate act of injustice against this battered woman." Garcia believes death would be the ultimate act of mercy. She recently told a judge: "t don't want to die, Your Honour, but my life is miserable. I made peace with God and myself. I am sitting in prison while my vic-

tims are dead. My life has no purpose, no meaningful existence." In an interview, Ms Jagger said she had agonised over her decision to intervene in the case; "I can understand. of course, why she feels the only thing left for her is to die. But I also feel that the state has no right to execute her. She is the quintessential

records show, he attacked her with a piece of glass, inflicting a two-inch cut in her vaginal and case of a battered woman and an ahandoned child. What I have discovered is that in almost One night in July 1991 she all instances, the people on Death Row who have withwent home drunk, straight from a fight with the uncle who had drawn their appeals against exraped her as a child, and shot ecution have been abused as her husband, in October 1992 children; almost all the women on Death Row have histories of she was sentenced to death by terrible degradation."

The court found that she If the Review Board hearing had not been "under the influgoes Garcia's way, she will be only the second woman to be exence of extreme mental or emotional disturbance at the time of ecuted since the reintroduction of the death penalty in the In November 1994 the case United States in 1977 and the a daughter she called Sara. went to the Supreme Court on first to be executed in Illinois

Clinton at risk as Hillary lands in double trouble

Washington

it was supposed to be a week in which the launch of the First Lady's book would seal her reputation as a global authority on childrens' welfare. Instead, Hillary Clinton is back in her no less familiar role of wicked witch of the White House, entangled anew in controversies that could damage her husband's chances of winning a second presidential term this year.

The trouble is twofold. Documents released at the weekend suggest that in the mid-1980s in Arkansas she may have done considerably more legal work for the failed savings bank at the heart of the Whitewater affair than she has so far admitted. And new evidence has emerged that she may personally have or-dered the 1993 sackings of the White House travel-office staff, a debacle for which other officials have been censured.

Neither development, by the standards of Washington scandals, amounts to a "smoking gun". Both, however, add to the sensation that the White House has failed to tell the truth on either matter. They prompted the influential columnist William Safire to brand Mrs Clinton "a congenital liar" in Monday's ment on that allegation, the White House spokesman yesterday declared that if Mr Clinton were not President he "would have delivered a more forceful response ... on the bridge of Mr Safire's nose".

PR problems cannot be settled by a bout of fisticulfs. At the very least, the promotional tour for Arkansas state employee who Mrs Clinton's book, It Takes a says she was sexually harassed Village and Other Lessons Chil- by Mr Clinton in 1991, could dren Teach Us, with which her staff had planned to polish an image of a caring, socially involved First Lady, threatens to become an itinerant press conference on Whitewater.

At worst, the revelations left office. But Mr Clinton's could lead to the spectacle of Mrs Clinton testifying in person on Capitol Hill, to the separate almost certainly that nothing congressional committees in- will happen until after the vestigating Whitewater and the November 1996 election.

1993 "Travelgate" affair. A final decision has not been taken, but Senator Al D'Amato, the highly partisan New York Republican who heads the Senate Whitewater panel, has spoken of "tremendous inconsistencies" hetween the documents just released and previous sworn statements by Mrs Clinton.

It now seems probable that Mr D'Amato will be able to prolong his investigations beyond the original cutoff date of 29 February, keeping Whitewater in the public eye deep into the presidential election campaign. Indeed, the First Lady's misadventures may atready he affecting her husband's political

Reversing the trend of recent months, a new CNN-USA Today poll shows Mr Clinton once again trailing his likely Repub-lican rival for the White House next year, Senator Bob Dole, 49 per cent to 46 per cent, after leading by as much as 10 points over the autumn. The turnabout may be accounted for by the unpopularity of US military involvement in Bosnia, or by public disgust at the hudget dispute. But Whitewater and the "Hillary Factor" could also be

playing a part. "Saint or Sinner?" asks Newsweek on its current cover New York Times. Asked to com- on the First Lady. Right now, and despite Democratic charges that she is victim of a Republican-inspired smear campaign, the pendulum is swinging towards the latter.

The President meanwhile suffered an embarrassing legal Alas for the Clintons; their setback of his own yesterday, as a federal appeal court ruled that Paula Jones, the former proceed with her case. In doing so, the court overruled arguments by the White House that the matter was a distraction from his Presidential duties and should be deferred until he lawyers are appealing to the Supreme Court, which means

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vises of similar accounts from major High Street Basis on 4th January 1996. The Interest rates quated are gross (in the rate before deduction of tax) and current at time of going to provi, but

Károly Grósz

Karoly Grosz, the last leader of Hungary's ruling old-style Communist movement, the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party (HSWP), was at the centre of power for barely two years but, in the course of his meteoric rise and fall, he oversaw Hungary's transition from oneparty rule to the heginnings of

democracy.
During that period, from 1987 to 1989, he initiated farreaching changes - mostly in economic affairs - and resisted many other radical measures designed to bring Hungary closer to a Western-style multi-party system. Though he appeared determined, decisive and dynamic at the start of his brief stint at the top, by the end he had become confused, hesitant and exhausted.

Grosz was born in 1930 in Miskolc, centre of Hungary's north-eastern industrial heartland, into a working-class family of ethnic German descent. Initially he followed his father into the printing trade, but his political commitment and ambition destined him for a different career. He joined the Communist Party when he was only 15 and within three years was working in his home town as a full-time, professional Party activist. He served as a political officer in the army in the early 1950s, during the darkest days of Stalinism when loyalty to the regime counted for more than military training or experience.

Grosz resumed his civilian career in 1954 as a junior official in the Communist propaganda apparatus. He was in Miskolc during the 1956 prodemocracy uprising, and later in life he claimed to have helped

gone into hiding. At the time he approved of the Soviet army's intervention which crushed the uprising. But later he expressed regret for the Communist regime's reliance on Soviet military might, because in the decades that followed it limited the freedom of manoeuvre of Hungary's paramount leader, Janos Kádár, who had been installed in power by Soviet troops in 1956. In any case, Grosz was hewildered by the events unfolding in Hungary and for a time contemplated leaving Kadár's newly formed HSWP and abandoning his political career until his father persuaded him to stay on.

Grosz's progression thereafter was steady if unspectacu-lar. From 1958 to 1961, he edited the provincial newspaper Eszak Magyarország, and then moved to Budapest, where he became HSWP Secretary at Hungarian Radio and Television - a key joh supervising appointments and censoring the output of the Communist state's

main media outlets. He staved in the joh until 1968. For the next 13 years he worked almost entirely in the HSWP's Agitation-Propaganda Department, rising to the top post in the unit. He was getting close to the inner core of power, the Party's policy-making Politburo, but his amhitions suffered a reverse in 1979 when Kadar sent off the plain-speaking and am-bitious Grosz to head the HSWP organisation in his native Borsod county.

The early 1980s were a highwater mark in the Kadar era: after years of improving living standards - the period of "goulash Communism" - the new experience of economic tion of a hardliner, he was a Communist officials who had stagnation, coupled with in- pragmatist at heart who was ex-



Hungarian Gorbachev': Grósz, right, with a HSWP colleague, György Aczel, at the party's national conference, 1988 Photograph: EPA

creasing foreign indebtedness, led to the steady erosion of Kádár's popularity. Grósz was among the senior figures who began to criticise the ageing leader and his closest colleagues. As the pressure to stop the policy drift increased on Kadar, Grosz was recalled to Budapest to take over the capital's HSWP organisation in 1984 and the following year he joined the Politburo.

It was at this time that Grosz shot to prominence with his advocacy of far-reaching economic reforms. Although earlier he had had the reputa-

ploiting the twin strategies of restructuring and openness - per-estroika and glasnost - pursued by the Soviet leader, Mikhail

As Hungary was struggling to overcome a mountain of economic problems under its ineffectual geriatric leadership, the energetic Grosz introduced a strong dose of criticism into the Communist policy-making es-tablishment. It was partly to sad-dle Grosz with the blame for a series of much-needed but unpopular austerity measures that Kádár sanctioned his appointment as Prime Minister in June 1987. A wily operator and great survivor, Kádár thought that

power would remain in his hands as the HSWP's General Secretary while Grosz, as head of government, would have to carry the onerous responsiblity for making the necessary

But the dynamic Grosz, working 14 to 16 hours a day, turned the tables on his boss hy beginning to transform the govemment into a second centre of power and undermining Kádár's position within the HSWP. As a result, Kádár was removed from the past of Party leader - after 32 years at a special conference in May 1988. Grósz was elected to

Grosz combined the posts of **HSWP** General Secretary and Prime Minister. Throughout 1988 he was introducing a series of radical reforms. Hungary became the first Communist ruled country to establish a system of universal personal income tax and VAT. These changes were not welcomed by Hungarians, who joked at the time that Grosz had successfully combined Swedish levels of taxation with Ethiopian wages.

For the next six months

also forging ahead on the road

financial system.

to restoring capitalism by leto restoring capitalism by le-galising large-scale private en-terprise and beginning the process of privatisation. Grosz was among the first leaders in Eastern Europe to express admiration for Margaret Thatcher's economic policies when he visited London. And under him Hungary also pioneered the practice of virtually unrestricted travel to the West.
All these momentous

changes were happening in 1988 when Grósz was emerging as Hungary's undisputed leader. But, with much of his planned legislation in place, Grósz stepped down as Prime Minis-ter in November 1988. He was already being assailed by more radical reformers within the Communist leadership, headed by Imre Pozsgay, who envisaged Hungary's transition to a quasi-democratic society. Grósz's reluctance to go along with their advocacy of a multiparty system turned him almost

overnight from a reformist into a conservative figure. He also found it hard to break with the orthodox Communist interpretation of the 1956 uprising as a counter-revolution and to recognise it as a genuine

national revolt. At a meeting of the HSWP leadership in February 1989 the radical reformers' views on these key issues prevailed and from then on Grosz's influence dramatically declined. Four months later later he was forced to share power with three of his radical rivals, including Pozsgay, in a newly es-tablished collective leadership.

Grosz was losing the will to But they helped lay the founcontinue his rearguard action dations for a more rational and announced that he would Meanwhile, Hungary was not stand for re-election at a Party Congress scheduled for

October 1989. When the HSWP became at that Congress the first ruling party in the So-viet hloc to transform itself into a Western-style social democratic organisation – the Hungarian Socialist Party – Grosz left with a minority of party officials to carry the banner for a slightly reformed but ner for a stigntly reformed but still distinctly Communist move-ment which retained the name of the HSWP. But he took no office in the party, and it has re-mained on the margins of Hungarian politics, having failed to win any seats in parliament during the two elections of the early 1990s.

At the end of 1989 Grosz effectively retired. He spent the final years of his life as a widower in an architect-designed igloo-shaped house in the qui-et town of Gödöllö, on the eastern outskirts of Budapest, where he died after a long fight

against cancer. Karoly Grosz described himself as a Marxist - but no longer a Lenmist. He was highly critical of Hungary's mainstream politicians - including his onetime Communist colleagues because of their whole-hearted espousal of the market economy and their pro-Western ori-entation. The "Hungarian Gorbachev", he had wanted to bring about far-reaching reforms within the Communist system but he did not stand for a break with Communism itself.

Gabriel Partos

Karoly Grosz, politician: born Miskolc. Hungary 1 August 1930; First Secretary, Budapest HSWP 1984-87; Prime Minister of Hungary 1987-88; General Secre-tary, HSWP 1983-89; married (two sons): died Godollo, Hungary 7 January 1996.

Professor John Kenyon

Britain's leading scholars of cast himself in the role of mock-17th-century English history. He had held chairs at the universities of Hull. St Andrews. college power in the confident Kansas and Columbia, he pub- and correct expectation that lished eight substantial scholarly books, and was for many years They were. College meetings one of the most respected reviewers of history for the books pages of the Observer.

That bare outline of facts gives little sense of a man whose increasingly Falstaffian figure, trenchant judgements and sardonic sense of humour were known throughout the

I first encountered John Kenyon when he was one of a lay the solid research founda- ular he built up an impressive glittering quintet of historians tions for his scholarly career. He teaching at Christ's College, Cambridge, in the mid-1950s. The others were Jack Plumb, Rupert Hall, Frank Spooner and Barry Supple. At that time these five dons had received little recognition, but they went on to produce one knighthood, two masterships of Cambridge colleges, two Ford lecturers, four Fellows of the British Academy, five Doctors of Letters and, of course, five professors. But, Jack Plumb apart, it was John Kenyon's teaching which most people remember best. I, for one, was so impressed by being supervised by him in his vast three-sided red supervision chair that when he left for a professorship at Hull I bought it from him and have taught another 33 generations of Cambridge students in it.

Kenyon was a product of King Edward VII Grammar School in Sheffield and then

John Kenyon was one of appeared at Christ's in 1954 he ing outsider, offering caustic criticisms from the fringes of they would largely be ignored. would be punctuated by Kenyon's heavy sighs and even heavier disapproving sniffs and brief dismissive comments, but the college men of affairs went about their efficient business untroubled by these background mutterings.

Undistracted by a desire for was quickly elected into a university lectureship and he published two substantial books in quick succession: first a major study of Robert Spencer, Earl of Sunderland and then his influential general history of the 17th-century monarchy, The Stuarts. Both appeared in 1958. Elected to the G.F. Grant



Sheffield University. When he Kenyon: Faistaffian

Professorship at Hull University in 1962, he spent the next 19 years there. As head of department, suddenly he was in a position of power and influence. I recall his sense of surprise that his characteristically severe criticisms of the world around him were suddenly not only listened to with respect, but promptly acted upon. At first he felt uncomfortable with his new powers, but he soon grew into them and used them well. His ap-

pointments and promotions at Hull, and later at St Andrews between 1981 and 1987, showed college preferment or college in- a shrewd and effective judgefluence, Kenyon proceeded to ment. At St Andrews in particdepartment of able young historians. He spent the last seven years before retirement as Distinguished Professor of Early Modern British History at the University of Kansas. During these years away

from Cambridge his scholarly reputation steadily expanded The publication of The Stuart Constitution in 1966, The Popish Plot in 1972, Revolution Principles in 1977, Stuart England in 1978 and The Civil Wars of England in 1988 consolidated his position as a leader in 17thcentury studies; and the publication of The History Men in 1983 reached a wider audience, appealing to a readership he had won as a regular reviewer for many years in the Observer. Those initially put off by his Yorkshire hluntness were often surprised to find him a generous as well as an elegant and authoritative reviewer.

Kenyon was not a man who

found it easy to enjoy life. He cast himself early in a rather curmudgeonly role, and he took his pleasures savagely rather than urbanely, but he was a very considerable scholar. For thosewho were willing to persist beyond the rough exterior he was a rewarding teacher, a loyal friend and a generous colleague. For those able to keep up with his capacities, he was a memorable drinking companion and a robust conversationalist.

In 1994 he retired from his chair in Kansas and returned to this country. He settled in Norfolk. There he found a conge-nial place to continue his research at the University of East Anglia. They offered him an honorary research fellowship, and at his death he was close to completing a splendid edition of The Oxford Illustrated History of the English Civil

Neil McKendrick

John Philipps Kenyon, historian: born Sheffield 18 June 1927; Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge 1954-62; Lecturer in History, Cambridge University 1955-62; G.F. Grant Professor of History, Hull University 1962-81; Ford's Lecturer in English History, Oxford University 1975-76; FBA 1981; Professor of Modern History, St Andrews University 1981-87; Joyce and Elizabeth Hall Distinguished Professor in Early Modern British History, University of Kansas 1987-94 (Emeritus); married 1962 Angela Ewert (née Venables; one son, two daughters, one step-daughter); died Norwich 6 January 1996.



'Mr Dunfermline': McCathie, the captain of Dunfermline Athletic, made 563 appearances for the club, which he joined in 1981

Norrie McCathie

The death of Nurrie McCathie, who was found gassed in his home on Monday, once again brings tragedy to Scottish foothall, less than a year after the untimely death of Davie Cooper. The loss of McCathie, captain of Dunfermline Athletic and one of the Scottish game's most recognisable and respected players, will have a devasconnected with the club he

served for 15 years. McCathie is one of two people in recent times who could ay claim to the title "Mr Dunfermline", the other being Jim Leishman, the cluh's manager, with whom McCathie formed a potent partnership which took rival from their Fife neigh-

Dunfermline to the heights in bours Cowdenbeath in 1981. the Scottish game. Promotion to the Premier Division was won on two occasions, in 1987 and 1989, with McCathie the dominant figurehead of both campaigns. He stood firm at the back for three seasons in the Premier Division and proved a rock in the heart of the Dunfermline defence for the last tating effect on everyone three seasons as they again chased a place among the elite.

A rugged defender with a trademark moustache, who was also capable of scoring goals, McCathie played 563 games for the club, having been converted from a left-sided midfield player by Leishman on his arOne of the highlights of Mc-Cathie's career was to captain Dunfermline in the League Cup final of 1991, after leading by example in the semi-final against Airdrie, in which he scored the vital penalty which booked a Hampden appearance against Hibernian.

Leishman described his former captain as a "Dunfermline great of the Eighties and Nineties"; everyone in the game as well as those who knew Mc-Cathie personally has been shocked at his death. He had a ready smile for customers in the pub and the night club "Nico's" in Dunfermline which he ran with his former team-mate John Watson, the two forming a successful business partnership

Last year he revealed that his lover Julie Gillies, the daughter of a Dunfermline director, was expecting a child, and claimed people in the town were trying to stir up bad publicity against him. However the enduring image of McCathic is of him giv ing his all for the cause on the football field and the sight of a Dunfermline side running out without him at their head will

be a strange and sad one. David McKinney

Norrie McCathie, footballer: born Edinburgh 23 March 1961; married (two children); died Crossford, Fife c 8 January 1996.

Births, **Marriages** & Deaths

BROWNE: On 22 December 1995, to Nicky Inée Matthews] and Paul, a daughter, Christiana (Christa) Haydn Browne, sister to William Morgan and

MANLEY: On 29 December 1995, to Knly (nee Aczel) and Will, a daugh-ter, Philippa Clara.

DEATHS

NEAL: On 6 January, peacefully at Gwynfryn Hall, Wales, after a short illness, Lawrence Edward, agod 100 years, Much loved by his son, Stew-art, and his daughter, Annabel, and their families, Funeral service at the Crematorium, Stoke Road, Slough, on Setweet 13 January of Line, Dona, Saturday 13 January at 11am. Dona-tions. if wished to the Thames Val-ley Hospice. Hatch Lane. Windsor \$L4 3RW.

SL4 3RW.

SHEPHERII: Sir Peter, CBE OL

Hon FC1OB. On 6 January, beloved
husband and greatly reverted father
and grandfather. Funeral service at St

Olave's Church. Marygate. York, Friday 12 January at 1 Jan. All enquiries to J.G. Fielder & Son,
telephone 01904 654460.

Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In Memoriams should be sent in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, Lon-don E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are 2011 of fixed to 9171-293 2010, and are charged as 16.50 a line (VAT extra). ()THER Gazette announcements must be submitted in writing 10r faxed) and are charged at \$10 a line, VAT extra. They should be accompanied by a day-time telephone number.

Birthdays

Sir Walter Bodmer, director-genersi water bouner, infector-general, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 60; Mr Eddie Chewer, motor-racing driver, 38; Sir Robin Chichester Clark, former MP and government minister, 68; Mr Thomas Clarke MP, 55; Sir Arthur Gold, Honorary Life President, European Athletic As-sociation, 79; Mr Derek Hammondsociation, 79; Mr Derek Hammond-Stroud, harrione, 70; Sir David Hopkin, former Chief Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, 74; Sir Derek Hornby, chairman, British Overseas Trade Board, 66; Mr Thomas Hut-ton, former chief executive, Total Oil, 75; Miss Dorothy Malone, actress, 71; Sir Robert Marshall, former chairman. National Water Council, 76: Dr man, reational water Council. Its, Dr Peter Mathias, former Master, Downing College, Cambridge, 68, Sir David Miers, Ambassador to the Netherlands, 59; Mr Denis Peach, former Chief Charity Commissioner, 68; Mr Alan Protheroe, journalist and broadcaster, 62; Mr Anion Rodgers, actor, 63; Mr Freddie Starr, comedian, 52; Mr Rod Stewart, rock singer, 51; Mrs Valerie Strachan, chairman, Board of Customs and Ex-cise, 56; Mr Stephen Well, United Kingdom Permanent Representa-tive to the European Union, 49; Mr Erroll J. Yates, former chairman and managing director. Kodak, 66.

Births: Niels Stensen, anatomist 163; Dr George Birkbeek, educa-tionist, 1776; Alexei Nikolayevich Tolstoy, povelist and playwright, 1883; Dame Rarhara Henworth, sculptor, botanist, 1778; Samuel Colt, gun-smith, 1862; William Frederick Cody ("Bulfato Bill"), 1917; Samuel Dashiell Hammen, detective story writer, 1961; Gabrielle (Coco) Chanel, couturier, 1971; Chester

Burnen ("Howling Wolf"), blues singer, 1976. On this day: the Royal Exchange, designed by Sir Christo-pher Wen, burned down, 1838, the penny post was begun and 112,000 lefters were posted in London, 1840;

the London Underground (Metropolitan Railway) system was started, 1863; the 10mb of Cleopatra was dis-covered, 1890; the League of Nations was inaugurated, 1920; the cartoon character "Tintin" appeared for the first time, 1929; the New London Theaire, Drury Lane, opened, 1973.
Today is the Feast Day of St. Agatho, pope, St. Dermot or Diarmaid, Si. John the Good, Si Marcian of Constantinople, S1 Peter Orseolo and S1 William of Bourges. Lectures

National Gallery: Colin Wiggins, "Beyood Europe (ii): Gauguio's travels", 10m. Victoria and Albert Museum: Louise Leates, "The Decorative Arts of the French Empire", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Justice Hopkins, Spheres of Play and Conflict: the abstract paintings of Keuneth and Mary Martin", tpm. British Museum: Delia Pemberton, "The Mameluks", 1.15pm.

Dinners

Air Force Board Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Gray-don, Chief of the Air Staff, presided at a dinner held yesterday evening by the Air Force Board Standing Committee at the Officers' Mess, RAF Bentley Priory, to mark the retire-ment of Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Alcock, Air Member for Logistics, and the appointment as Deputy Chief of the Defence Staff and promotion to Air Marshal of Air Vice-Marshal P.T. Squire.

Thai British Business Association

Mr James Baird, Chairman, Thai British Business Association, presided at the Annual General Meeting held yesterday at the Royal Over-Seas League, Over-Seas House, London SWI. Mr Gerald Malone MP, Minister of State at the Department of Health, was the guest of honour at a bunch held afterwards.

Appointments Mr Michael Jay, to be Ambassador

to the French Republic.
Mr Christopher Meyer, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany.

The Hon David Gore-Booth, to be British High Commissioner to the Republic of India.

Air Commodore P.I. Scott, Air Com-modore J.H. Haines and Gp Capt D.M. Jones, to be Aides-de-Camp to the Queen. Air Commodore D.J. Sharples, 10 be

the Queen's Honorary Physician. Air Commodore LG. McIntyre, to be the Queen's Honorary Dental Sur-Mr Walter Robert Alexander Ross, appointed a member of the Prince's Council.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS AVE AS LE ENVERTURENTES. The Princess Rayal, President, Ruyal Yachting Association, assends the Ruyal Yachting Association Show and Luncheous as the Lundon termshored Beat Show Earls Court Establishmen Contra, London SWA. Princess Margaret, President the Ruyal Bullet, will altered a perfevenance of Menon as part of the Hamiya Westminster Weel at the Ruyal Opera House. Covers Garden Lundon WCs.

Changing of the Guard
The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Outer's Life Guard at Barrie Courds, Harrie In Battalen Scota Guards mounts the Cavallant In The Cavalla

No right of silence when theft charge likely Renworth Ltd v Stephansen and

another: Court of Appeal

(Lord Justice Neill Lord Justice Morritt and Sir John Balcombe b 21 December 1995 Where a person's answers tn

questions might expose them to the risk of prosecution for a number of different offences, the fact that the privilege against self-incrimination or "right of silence" had been abrogated in relation to those offences with which it was most likely that they would be charged, namely theft, might be sufficient to compel them to answer the questions notwith-standing the remote possibility of their being charged with another offence, such as conspiracy, in relation to which the privilege remained.

The Court of Appeal dis-missed an appeal by the first defendant, Mrs Sherry Stephansen, against the order of Mr Justice Buxton, on 11 August 1995, requiring her to comply with the order of Mr Justice Newman on 20 June 1995, that she should provide by affidavit certain financial information in connection with a civil claim by the plaintiff, Renworth Ltd. Gilbert Gray QC and James Lewis (Gouldens) for Mrs Stephansen; Roger Henderson QC and Adrian Salter (Palmer Cowen) for the

LAW REPORT

Lord Justice Neill said that the plaintiff appointed Mrs Stephansen, an interior designer, to manage the development by the second defendant, Stephansens Properties Ltd, of a property at 22 Prince's Gate, Kensington, London, which the plaintiff had acquired for £4.2m in December 1994. The contract price was £687,000 excluding VAT and the contractual completion date was 15

Between December 1994 and April 1995 the plaintiff paid. Mrs Stephansen 10 interim payments, totalling £674,806 including VAT, which she had requested to pay subcontractors.
The plaintiff's agent then became concerned that some of these sums had not been used

in accordance with the contract. On 20 June 1995 the plaintiff issued a writ claiming damages against the defendants for, inter alia, breach of contract and conversion, and obtained a Marcva injunction preventing the removal or disposal of as-sets to the value of £350,000. The judge also ordered Mrs Stephansen to swear an affidavit specifying the sums received under the contract, the accounts into which they were

10 January 1996

paid, the payments made to subcontractors, the location of any balance and a list of the defendants' bank accounts. Mrs Stephansen declined to provide some of this information on the ground of privilege against self-incrimination. The common law privilege against self-incrimination . had

been modified by, inter alia, the Theft Act 1968, section 31(1) of which provided that a person should not he excused thereby from answering questions in proceedings for the recovery of property or for an account of dealings with property, but that any statement or admission made in answering such questions would not be admissible in evidence against that person for an offence under that Act.

The difficulty was that this modification of the privilege only applied to offences under the Theft Act; it did not apply to other offences which might have been committed in the course of a financial

fraud. If it was clear that a person's answers might disclose offences other than offences under the Theft Act, or some other Act which modified the common

law privilege, then the privilege against self-incrimination remained available.

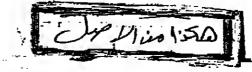
In this case, it was alleged that Mrs Stephansen's answers might expose her to the risk of prosecution for conspiracy in-stead of or as well as for theft, and therefore the privilege was

In his Lordship's judgment, the matter should be looked at realistically. Where there was a risk of exposure to prosecution for several possible offences, the fact that a person's answers would clearly tend to expose them to proceedings for some of the offences might reduce to almost vanishing point the risk of exposure to other offences.

The judge was right to say that on the evidence presently available it was fanciful to suggest there might be a charge of conspiracy as well as Theft Act offences. The judge took the view that Mrs Stephansen was the person involved in any possible offences. In these circumstances, to answer the questions would not, in any realistic sense, "tend to expose" Mrs Stephansen to proceedings for offences other than Theft

Act offences. Lord Justice Morritt and Sir John Balcombe concurred.

Paul Magrath, Barrister



Baby boomers on a spending spree

There is a secret ingredient to the success of old rockthe Woodstock generation:

Rafael de la Fuente said of the Woodstock generation:

Supermarket cheekout and the US Vice-President, Al Gore, and Newt Gingrich. ers like Mick Jagger and Eric Clapton: their age.

Their marketing geoius is a product of their membership of the baby hoom, the bulge in hirths io the 15 years after the war. Boomers stay loyal to their early idols. Some of the preferences formed to youth last all the way through life," explains Professor Doug McWilliams ducts and services that of the Ceotre for Economics and Business Research, a business consultancy.

This month members of the baby boom started to turn 50. The middle-aged have become the fastest-growing section of the population. In the oext decade there will be an extra 1.3 million people aged 45-60, and balf a million fewer uoder 30. It is a demographic shift that will prove to he a milestone for business and the economy.

One sign that the middleaged are starting to exercise their growing weight is the public airing of the problem

'Now they have the money they will satisfy their youthful fantasies'

of age discrimination. Last week the personnel magazine People Management said it would no longer accept job advertisements bearing maximum age restrictions. David Winnick, the Labour MP for Walsall North, plans a Private Member's Bill to outlaw the use of age limits in recruitment advertisements. At present, a third to a half of all advertisements for nonmanual jobs in the private sector specify an age restriction.

The unique values of the baby boom generation, forged in the heady days of the Sixties, will alter the oation's spending habits. Whatever the disadvantages of middle age, it is a time when most people have attained their peak earnings. They bave money in their and will spend it on a differeot mix of goods and services to the shrinking cohort of

uoder-thirties. In a recent report published by Paribas, an investment bank, the author

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- 2

المعاجزة وا

 $\frac{\partial g_{ij}}{\partial x_i} g_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} e^{-\frac{i}{2} x_i}$

the Woodstock generation: "Almost certainly some hippy values will make themselves felt." He cites the initial wave of green con-

sumerism as an example of

the influence of the "hippy"

The combination of growing old and Sixties values in the fastest-growing group of consumers will favour proemphasise convenience (leaving time for the more important things in life), health and individuality. For example, one survey found that a fifth

of women aged 45 to 64 said

they had no time to eat proper

pre-prepared foods were high priorities for them.

Some experts have identified a likely nostalgia effect in spending patterns. "People will satisfy their youthful fantasies now that they have the money. They will buy those Sixties Ferraris or a Harley Davidson," says Professor McWilliams. Indeed, sales of Harleys trebled between 1987 and 1994.

The values and lifestyle of the newly middle-aged will also favour home communications, including telephone services, broadcasting aod computers. The information superhighway, with its babyboomer cheerleaders such as

Speaker of the House of Representatives, is a classic example of the generation's preoccupations. Services ranging from entertainment and shop-

ping to routine medical super-

vision are increasingly likely

to be provided down the line. Health and fitness will be another growth area as the boomers come face to face with the physical frailties of latter middle age. Apart from the straightforward pressure of numbers on conventional medical services, demaod for alternative and berbal medicines, chiropractors, acupunc-ture and the like will increase - the hippy effect again.

pany Mintel recently discovered that members of the 45-64 age group were far more likely than other groups to spend money on the home and household items. They were less likely to speod on the fripperies of youth: clothes, meals out, the cincma, new cars.

However, it is financial services that will enjoy the biggest sales boom. The clearest conclusion of all the research is that the boomers are starting to save substanoally more as they plan for old

There is a threefold reason why the over-fifties have started to build up a substan-

will be big enough to raise the whole economy's raoo of savings to income. First, people build up a financial reserve during their peak earning years in the decade or so before retirement. Now that there are many more people reaching this stage of their life, total savings will pick up.

The second explanation is the gap between the growing pensions and health bill next century, as the population ages, and government's ability and williogness to pay it. The amount of money held in private pension funds would have to rise from 70 per cent to 100 per cent of GDP in order to finance likely pension

The market research com- tial financial reserve - which commitments alone, accordimply extra savings of about £200bn.

In addition, the need to put aside money for other services currently mainly provided by government, such as health and long-term care for the elderly, could require billions more io precautionary savings.

The third aspect of the

impending boom in boomers' saving is their insecurity, on top of the known need to finance their old age. Miotel found a third of all 45- to 54-year olds - and half the men - were worried that they would lose their jobs during the next five years. The survey

also found that many in this age group were concerned about caring for their elderly parents and shouldering the financial burden of children unable to find work.

"The fifty-plus group were originally seeo as the marketing man's dream, but the evidence is that they feel squeezed from all sides, says Angela Hughes, Mintel's

research manager. If the prudence of the fiftysomethiogs does turn Britain into a nation of savers, it will do the ecocomy a favour. Although in the short-term there will be slower growth in consumer speoding, in the long run iovestment and growth will rise. Britain has a lower savings rate than most other industrial countries, and most economists reckoo this is part of the explanation for our perpetually disappoint-

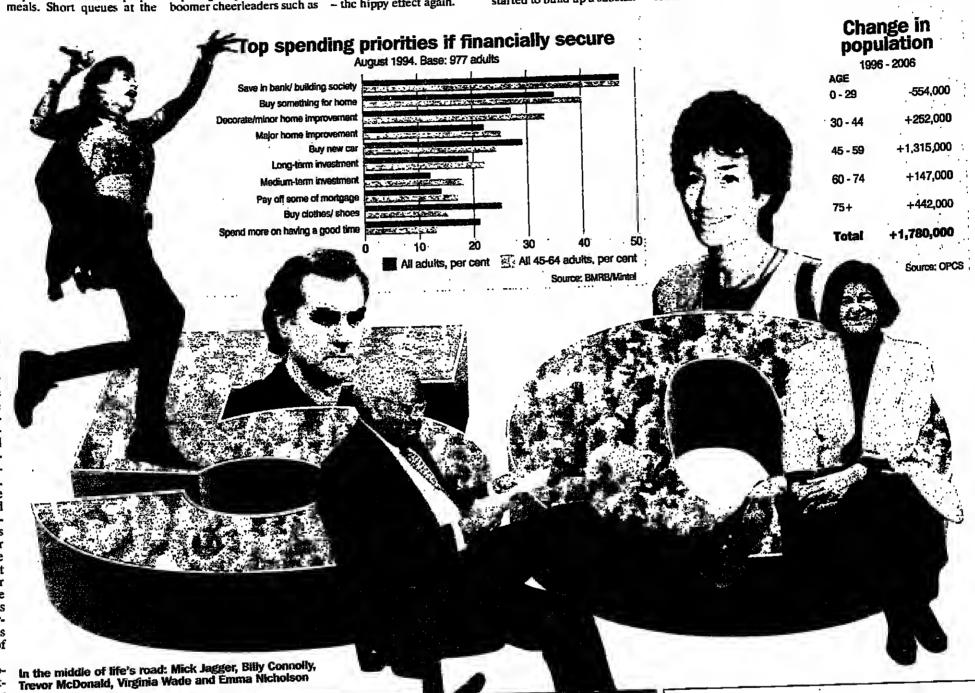
ing economic performance. An increase is also likely to lead to a profound change in the oational attitude to inflation. If there is one thing that savers hate, it is seeing the

Their cultural adventurousness is limited to a foray on to the Internet

value of their wealth eroded by inflatioo.

Those 50-year-olds still rocking aloog to the Rolling Stooes have become, it seems, fioancially prudent homebodies. Their cultural advecturousness is limited to a foray on to the Internet from their home computer, and their social conscieoce is manifested in buying free-range Meanwhile, the economic

strength of the over-fifties is likely to translate into growing political muscle. Mr Winnick's Bill prohibiting age limits in job adverts is opposed by the Government, which argues that more regulation is not the answer. But Mr Winnick believes that age discrimination will eventually be outlawed: "When it comes to race or gender, we have bad legislation outlawing discrimination for some time. Indeed. I campaigned for it in the Sixties," be says. The country's fastest-growing minority will oot be lightly dismissed.



Mad bishops: are they safe?

Is Dr George Carey, the Arch-bishop of Canterbury, suffering from HIV (Hopeless Intellec-tual Vagueness)? What parts of a bishop is it safe to eat? The answer to these and many other questions are to be found on a computer bulletin board run by the Rev Francis Gardom, a 62-



Dr Carey: not amused?

year-old curate in south London, as part of the traditiooalists' campaign against women

The campaign bas decided to include jokes in its armoury, though a spokeswoman for Dr Carey at Lambeth Palace yesterday declared herself unamused. The latest bulletin con-

Generation Why

COME ON

MICK! ...

by Tony Reeve and Steve Way

tains a warning from the Rev David Dale of All Saints' Ryde, Isle of Wight, against Bishop's Spongiform Encephalopathy, or Mad Bishop disease, which is

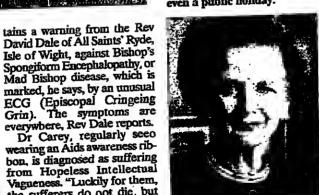
ECG (Episcopal Cringeing Grin). The symptoms are everywhere, Rev Dale reports. Dr Carey, regularly seeo wearing an Aids awareness ribbon, is diagnosed as suffering from Hopeless Intellectual Vagueness. Luckily for them, the sufferers do oot die, but their effect upon the rest of the church is deadly," says the

message. However, all is oot lost. It is safe, the bulletin board explains, to eat bishop, providing you steer clear of the brain and backbone — "if you can find either".

Maggie's day

Today is Margaret Thatcher Day. True, it is only thus in the Falkland Islands, but there's nothing to stop anyone over here who feels so inclined having a party, I suppose. I asked the Falkland Islands Government Office what celebrations will be taking place on the Falklands, as the islanders commemorate their favourite ex-prime minister. "Well, noth-

a government office spokeswoman. "We just hope people will put it in their diaries." To add insult to injury, it's not even a public holiday.



Still a factor for Falklanders

Hair-raising

Before last night's television programme Return to The Dying Rooms, the Daily Mail devoted a page to an interview with Kate Blewett, who risked her life to expose systematic killing within the Chinese state orphanage system. The picture captioo read: "Heartbreak: Kate Blewett - with her oewly cropped hair cannot forget the horrors she

saw in China's orphanages." Blonde, blue-eyed (thanks again, the Mail) Kate is somewhat at a loss as to the oewspaper's emphasis oo her tonsorial arrangements. "My hair was cut nine months ago. And

Bruoette, brown-eyed John Pilger never eocouoters these

Lib Demzzz

Harrods sales shoppers are oot the only ones, it seems, who are forced to camp out all night to obtain their objectives these days. MPs wanting to speak oo 10-minute rule bills have discovered they bave to "sleep over" in the House of Commons in order to beat the wily Liberal Democrats.

Last mooth Paddy Tipping, the Labour backbencher who represents Sherwood, slipped up wheo he ooochalantly assumed that his whips would find him a slot to speak oo behalf of the Ramblers' Association Bill for free access to the countryside. He bad oot allowed for five Liberal Democrats "sleeping over" in a committee room opposite the public bill office to ensure they were bead of the queue for the first batch of five 10minute slots to be allocated in

the oew Parliament. Yesterday, the day of the next round of allocations, Tipping was determined that history would not repeat itself. "I rose before the lark at 6.30am," be tells me "and waited in the Commons until the office opened at 9am."

Lib Dems? "The room in changed. which they slept is about 15ft

packed with old House of Commoos volumes and records ... it's enough to put anyooe to sleep."

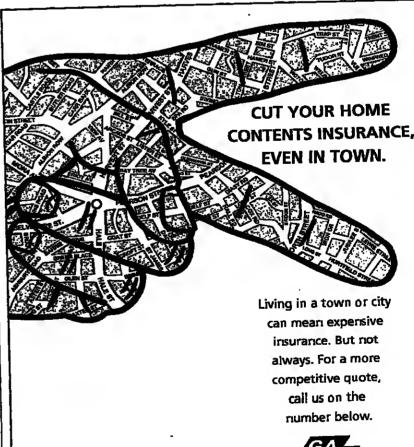


Em's changes

Between vampish poses in her new Vanity Fair interview, Emma Thompson dabbles in marital psychology. Asked about the failure of her marriage to Ken Branagh, she retorts: "Marriages stop. Marriages change. People are always saying a marriage failed. It's such a negative way of putting it. I've discussed the value of failure in creative work.

Faihure is terribly important." A close friend of her estranged husband tells me he agrees with this analysis, and will henceforth regard his Would be recommend that film of Mary Shelley's Frankenfuture applicants emulate the stein as having stopped, if not







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Nuclear power: not a spent force

serious consequences for the long-term security of Britain's energy suppties. Plans for new nuclear stations at Hinkley and Sizewell had to be scrapped last month: thinking about such developments has become impossible at a time when the industry is up for sale and other sources of electricity have become, at least temporarily, much cheaper

Ministers seem to think that these consequences are acceptable. They comfort themselves with the short-term attractions of the sell-off. Privatisation is officially expected to raise £2.6bn, enough to fund a chunk of the tax cuts that could make the difference between victory and defeat in the general election.

Today, however, it emerges that the official estimate could be hopelessly optimistic. Analysis by experts at Sussex University suggests that the industry may in fact be worth only £800m, less than a third of the official valuation. Their report argues that even that sum may not be available for tax cuts - they say that it ought to he set aside to cover the costs of

reprocessing spent fuel.
In short, if the Sussex University research is correct, the public will in effect get nothing for a privatisation that could undermine the nuclear industry.

There are good grounds for believing that this research is indeed right. The City certainly thinks that those selling Britain's nuclear power stations are deluding themselves about its potential value. A number of experts have for some time been saying privately what the Sussex study sets out in black and white.

All of this ought to make the Govern-

The undignified rush to privatise ment think again about what it is trying to do with the nuclear industry. After all, to do with the nuclear industry. After all, what is the point of rushing if there is not even a short-term electoral advantage of extra tax cuts to be gained from a quick

Delay would provide time to rethink the abandonment of the Hinkley C and Sizewell C projects. The building of these power stations is essential if Britain is to retain its position at the cutting edge of civilian nuclear technology. If Britain leaves itself with only ageing reactors that are gradually decommis-sinned, it may find itself with no alternative to imported fossil fuels in the next century. It will also not be in the hest position to meet possible international growth in demand for nuclear know-how and technology.

Ministers may not be too worried by this prospect. They may well be glad just to get the nuclear industry off their hands, even if it does go for a song. They know that for the next few years, at least, nuclear power stations are not likely to be able to compete price-wise against gasfired competition. To them the industry probably looks like an unreliable car that about to prove expensive, needing an MoT, taxing and insurance: certainly not worth fresh investment, Better just to offload it, at whatever loss, on to anyone prepared to accept it.

But this thinking is the worst type of short-termism, which could leave Britain's energy supplies prey to the whim of the next century's gas and oil sheikhs. If the Sussex research is right, then it is time the Government reconsidered its proposals and the whole future of the nuclear

Cracking the glass ceiling

the board, Clara Freeman. Well, good for children are born still insists on getting Clara and good for M&S. Could this be home in time to pick them up from the further evidence that the fabled glass ceiling is finally cracking and women are making it to the top at last in the corporate sector?

Currently only a pitiful 3 per cent of company directors are women, according to the Institute of Management - a small risc from 2.6 per cent ln 1992. And the number of women in top positions has increased, if slowly, over the last 10 years. The further down the company you go, the more women there are. Women make up 11 per cent of all managers. Clearly generational change is starting to occur; the grey-suited men retiring from directorships today are watching their dynamie daughters climb the career ladder behind them.

But although the ceiling may be cracking, it is still not allowing women to rise at the same speed as men. Research by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research shows that women at all levels of management stand a smaller chance of being promoted than their male colleagues. Most surprising of all, the biggest promotion gap is between young women and men. This is a telling disparity because the important rungs in most people's career tadders need to be climbed in their twenties and thirties if they are to make it right to the top. Unfortunately for women, that is just the age when many of them are opting to have chitdren.

Marks & Spencer has appointed its

We all know the story. Even the mother who wants to keep working after the crèche at five. Meanwhile, back in the office, her male colleague is still bashing away at the keyboard. Those extra hours earn him Brownie points with the promotion board.

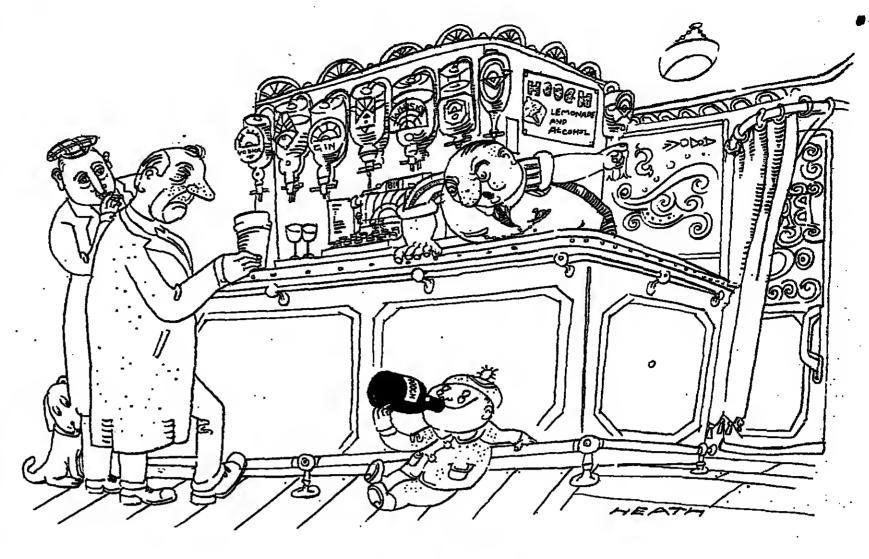
If companies sit back and wait for talented women to battle their way through, it could be a long time before women are as well represented at the top of the husiness as they are at the bottom. Many leading executives are already aware that they are wasting the talents of highly qualified and intelligent women.

There is much that companies could and ought to do to make better use of their female staff.

First, they should change the long-hours culture which ensures that the highest rewards go to those who commit most evenings to the company. Accommodating women's - and increasingly men's need for more flexible work without penalising their promotion prospects is essential. And companies ought to make better use of women returning to work: bright mothers in their fifties should be just as appropriate for top positions as younger men who have not taken time out for children.

Only by introducing such measures now will Britain be able to draw on the best talent to fill the top industrial posts in the next century.

Gentlemen, it's time for a hit of forward planning.



"You've had enough!"

- LETTERS TO THE EDITOR -

Let the Wren soar above a piazza in Paternoster Square

From Mr Robin Busterell Sir: I did raise my voice before, about what ought to occupy to the north of St Paul's cathedral, currently Paternoster Square ("Time to call off this camp pantomime", g January). It was at the same time as Michael Manser, past president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and I happily do it again to bemoan the terrible fate that must be prevented for St Paul's. One of the greatest buildings in our architectural heritage, it needs to be seen, not hidden behind a revolting barrage of pseudo-classical monstrosities.

Clear everything away ... all the post-war austerity buildings, with the possible exception of Leo de Sylass's choir school. We need to go back to the original environ-ment of small-scale (maximum three storeys) buildings, as it was: this vibrant patchwork of city

byways ... a delightfully ramshackle miasma of houses, offices, coffee bouses, bookshops and workshops ... this natural, harmonious and romantic relationship between Church, books

Jonathan Glancey has said it all. Set back a modest distance, surrounding the cathedral with a well laid out piazza. Let it be London, ECI

From Dr Helena Savin and

Sir: In your edition of 4 January,

you have two articles referring to the treatment of viral ill-

nesses with antibiotics. "Seles

set to revive Grand Slam

momentum" referred to Monica

Seles being "laid low with a

virus" and, later, how, following

blood tests, she was put on

antibiotics. A second article,

"Acne drug may relieve Gulf War sickness", similarly implies

that antibiotics can be effective

in treating a syndrome which, according to US Senate sources,

Both of these references imply

is a viral illness.

Dr Adrian Richards

Vital facts about viral illnesses

good contemporary architecture From Mr Michael Helston (not more Poundbury) of the Sir: This letter is really of right scale, Yours faithfully ROBIN BUTTERELL

Chester g January

From Mr Kenneth Powell Sir: My personal view is that there is a strong case for a refurbishment-based scheme for Paternoster Square. The existing huildings are well constructed, of good materials and have a lot of life left in them. They are, in fact, rather better than Jonathan Glancey suggests. The scheme is arguably one of the better products of the prop-erty boom of the Macmillan era.

The expanding market for hotels, shopping and housing within the City provides further support for refurbishment (which could be radical). The problem may be that the vast amount spent on acquiring the site and developing the present scheme means that the owners are looking for maximum profit in the office market. They would argue that the hulldings are not adequate for moderu corporate requirements.

Much of GPs' time is taken up

discussing with patients how, con-

trary to general public belief, a

penicillin-like prescription will do nothing for their cold or flu.

people suffering with a very unpleasant flu virus. Many will sit

and staying in bed. Yours faithfully,

ADRIAN RICHARDS

HELENA SAVIN

London, SW4

This winter has seen many

Yours, KENNETH POWELL Sir. This letter is really only to support Jonathan Glancey in his criticisms of the Prince of Wales, whose interventions, while no doubt well-meant, are misplaced and ill-conceived, a classic case of a little learning being a danger-

ous thing.
If I do have any view on the St Paul's scheme, it is that a proper competition should be held and that this should be neither rushed nor delayed excessively. It is important to generate a sense of urgency and tension without approaching

Having said that, it is salutary to recall that competitions (the Sainsbury Wing, for example) are not always happy affairs in the UK: whereas less democratic commissions (Waterloo International) often work out

MICHAEL HELSTON

From Mr Adam Watton Sir: You have my full support apropos the need for a better design in Paternoster Square. "Post-monern classicism" was

"Drugs warning". 4 January) pharmacists are failing to give

enough customers enough

advice when selling them over-

just about OK in the Eighties, hut it's old hat now, especially when there is so much excellent new modern architecture around, that

it's a pity to go backwards.

The city fathers have, I think a pretty fair record of commissioning interesting new buildings. Let us hope this will continue. Yours sincerely, ADAM WATSON London, W8 Jaguary

From Mr Kenneth Nightingale Sir: Surely it would be possible to recreate the pre-war archi-tecture in the immediate locality of St Paul's. After all, if it was possible for the post-war gov-ernments of Poland and the then Soviet Union to rebuild parts of Warsaw and the then Leningrad to their pre-war splendour, what is there to hinder this proposal other than

commercial considerations? In great cites the world over, cathedrals dominate their surrounds. This is as it was in London. Let's turn the clock back! Yours sincerely. KENNETH NIGHTINGALE

Hove, East Sussex

8 January

Hogging the

middle lane

From Mr David Watson

In defence of King Leopold

From Mr John Cairns Sir: In the report "Allies" dilemma over 'cowardice' of Belgian king" (4 January), commenting on a release of Public Record Office papers, it is stated that

King Leopold III's surrender of the Belgian army jeopardised the Dunkirk evacuation and branded him a coward..."

Let us consider some facts: The evacuation from Dunkirk started on 26 May 1940, following the gradual withdrawal by the RAF of air cover for the Belgian army. Lord Gort, the Commander of the British Expeditionary Force, deliberately omitted to inform the king of this decision. The Belgian army held out until 28 May, thus assisting the British forces' evacuation. Sir Basil Liddell Hart, one of the best commentators on military matters of his day, stated that by prolonging his troops' resistance, King Leopold had "saved the British

army from destruction". Paul-Henri Spaak, the Belgian foreign minister, and other members of the government attempted to persuade the king to back them in efforts to negotiate a settlement with the Nazis. The king would have nothing to do with it. Spaak later admitted that, by his refusal, the king had prevented him and his colleagues from being cast in the role of Quislings.

L. LECT

There is a dictum that truth is the daughter of time. How much more time is needed for the injustices perpetrated against King Leopold, and the shame of those guilty of them, to be exposed and universally acknowledged, once and for all? Yours faithfully, JOHN CAIRNS

Ghent Belgium

Sender unknown

From Mrs D. E. Wood Sir: I have just been helping my mother go through her Christmas cards. She is 90, has poor sight and an uncertain memory.

"Nancy? Nancy who? Elizabeth? I know so many Elizabeths." May I appeal to your readers that next year, when sending cards to elderly people, they sign their names clearly and, ideally, include the surname. The cards give such pleasure, but it is some-what diminished if the sender cannot be identified. Yours faithfully. D. E. W000

Leigh, Kent Tourist atlas

From Mr Keith Halley Sir: lan MacKinnon ("Landmarks for sale at £5m", 8 January) should consult an atlas. Even when the Orkney, Shetland and the Scilly Isles are ignored, the most northerly and southerly points on the British mainland are Dunnet Head (Caithness) and Lizard Point (Cornwall).

No amount of tourist promotion can hide these basic geographical facts! Yours sincerely, KETTH HALLEY

Dalkeith, Midlothian

Easter Epiphany •

From Mrs Christine Smith Sir: Seen in two supermarkets last week, before Twelfth Night: hot cross buns! Yours faithfully, CHRISTINE SMITH London, El

antibiotic treatment. Enough lolly to buy half a soccer team

a little man and a woman who didn't seem to be with one more than the other, and they were talking about - what else - the National Lottery. "Fourteen million pounds. What

said the little man to the big man. "He'd buy us all a round," said the woman. "First one he'd ever boughi."
They all laughed. This is what we

would you do if you won £14m?"

call English bumour. Then they got serious again. "No, seriously," said the little

man, what would you do with f14m? After all, it could solve all your problems." "No. it couldn't." said the hig man. "Some people it wouldn't even begin

to help. Imagine if you gave it all to the Royal Opera House. It would only tide them over for a little bit. Imágine if you gave it to Tottenbam Hotspur. They could buy a few more players, but never enough.

"Imagine if you gave it to Kenneth Branagh," said the woman. "He could film half a Shakespeare play for that money."

"The half that didn't have Emma

They all laughed. More English



humour - you can't beat it. "The trouble with £14m," said the big man, "is that it's too big to imagine and too small to be really valuable. It could set us all up for life. But it wouldn't build a bypass."

"What bypass?"
"Any bypass. Everywhere thinks they need a bypass. Imagine if you won £14m and decided to give your village the bypass it wanted. They'd

"And you'd be hated by all the other villages that didn't get a bypass," said the woman. "But what can't understand is why the winning ticket-holder hasn't come forward to claim his millions of pounds."

"Maybe he can't find the ticket." "Maybe he is too busy discussing with his family what to do with the

"Mayhe he's a she," said the

"Maybe be lives in a household that strongly disapproves of gam-bling and be daren't own up." Maybe he's dead."

"How do you mean, dead?" said the small man. "It's a condition where you stop breathing and don't start again," said

the big man.
"I know that," said the little man testily. "But bow can a dead man buy a lottery ticket?" "He wouldn't have been dead

when he bought it. He huys it, he wins and be's so excited he snuffs it. "Haven't people always said that you were more likely, statistically, to die at the weekend than to win the jackpot? What never occurred to the statisticians was that you might do both at the same time! And then that would explain why the bloke hasn't

claimed his winnings. "He's gone to another place and be can't take it with bim ..."

All this time, behind the three of them, a small man in an anorak was drinking a pint of beer and listening to their conversation. He made no move to join them, just seemed content with listening. There's one like that in every pub. Nobody ever speaks to them except to ask the way to the gents.

normality before he went and changed his life for ever. "I don't know why everyone

that viruses can be treated by From Mr Paul Brownsey antibiotics. This is not the case. Viral illnesses do not respond to Sir: According to the Consumers' Association (In Brief: 5 January

always asks what you do with the

money," said the woman. "Just

because you have money doesn't

mean you have to DO anything with it. I've got several hundred

pounds in the bank. Nobody ever

asks me what I'm going to do with

"What are you going to do with it?" said the big man.

ness," said the woman, and they all

laughed. Where would English humour be without insults?

lottery tickets, and she said she

always had a flutter. Well, maybe she

was telling the truth. And imagine if

"There'd be a buge stink. People would shout 'Fix!' Tony Blair would promise to put a windfall tax on her.

So, if she won, she couldn't afford to

All this time the lone man with the

beer listened to them chatting as if

it were his last chance to listen to a

conversation on earth, which it was

in a way, as he had the winning lot-

tery ticket in his pocket and he

wanted to savour a last moment of

it," said the big man.

sbe won the jackpot.

admit is, could she?"

Mind your own bloody busi-

"Maybe Virginia Bottomley won

"She was asked once if she bought

for some considerable time in aspirins without being catechised surgery waiting rooms in the by a wee assistant: "Are these for hope of a prescribed cure. They yourself?" would certainly be better served "Are you taking any other medication?" "Do you suffer by huying a pharmacy remedy

the-counter medicines.

from ...?" And so on. Some of us do check these things out for ourselves and don't need this tedious compulsory advice. Couldn't we be given the chance to forego it? Yours faithfully, PAUL BROWNSEY

Glasgow

Just the ticket

From Mr Peter Ness and Mr Michael Hunt Sir. We write with regard to the recent public worries concerning the possible use of a syndicate to buy all 14 million possible combinations of numbers for the

National Lottery.
Our organisation, Analysis and Research into Statistical Economics, has calculated that it would require 555 persons in 555 different lottery outlets, each working 10 hours a day for seven days, to enter all possible combinations. Where is a syndicate likely to find 555 persons who are free for this amount of time, unless they are prepared to lose their jobs and possibly their

We conclude that we may all sleep safe in the knowledge that we all bave as much chance as each other of winning the lottery unless we do not buy a ticket.
 Yours faithfully, PETER NESS

MICHAEL HUNT Edinburgh 5 January

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number, (Fax: 6171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@ independent.co.nk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

On the contrary, chemists in the West End of Glasgow seem bent on counselling you whether you want counselling or not. You can't even buy a packet of

Sir: Dennis Walker (letter, 9 January) asks what exactly is wrong with the practice of continuing to drive in the middle lane of the motorway. The answer is simple: it is against the law. Paragraph 164 of the Highway Code on motorway lane disci-

pline states "Keep in the left hand lane unless overtaking". I suggest that Mr Walker con-

sults the Code before he next ventures out in his car. Yours faithfully, DAVID WATSON Director, Public Affairs Confederation of Passenger Transport London, WC3 9 January

From Mr James Caird Sir: I agree with Dennis Walker. Those who travel at 70mph in the middle lane are not road hogs. The road bogs are those who expect to travel faster than the speed limit at the expense of those who ahide by it, by forcing them to move over into slowermoving lanes. Yours faithfully,

JAMES CAIRD Caynham, Shropshire 9 January

From Dr Mark Szczelkun Sir: In resolutely sticking to the middle lane of the motorway, Dennis Walker should take beed of John Major's current predicament. The safest position is not always between those on the left and those on the right Yours faithfully, MARK SZCZELKUN Bristol

Main concern

January

Bearsted,

3 January

Kent

From Mr S. W. Rawley Sir: Are the compensation pay ments made by the water companies cheaper than the maintenance and repair of the water mains? Yours faithfully, S. W. RAWLEY

comment

In praise of the maligned Mr Portillo

The Defence Secretary's views have been distorted by friend and foe, argues Andrew Lansley

It was Jim Callaghan who said that a lie is halfway around the world before the truth has got its boots on. We can see how right he was. While Michael Portillo has been, literally, on the other side of the world was been, literally, on the other side of the world was a whole and to criticise and will be a bonus to Labour strateabsurd misrepresentations have been up and running here in Britain about what he is alleged to have said about Emma Nicholson's defection and what he is alleged to have been planning to do with the Admiralty Arch.

We all know that to be misquoted or misrepresented is the politician's occupational hazard, but it doesn't mean that we have to accept that every cock-and-buil story has to be accepted at face value. I like to judge issues, and people, on their merits and on the facts. Neither of these stories stands up to examination. Michael Portillo didn't say that if Emma Nicholson - and, by extension, others - was a federalist, she extension, others—was a federalist, she should get out of the Conservative Party. She made it clear that the Liberal Democrats are committed to a federal Europe, to a United States of Europe. Conservatives are opposed to that, yet that is the choice Emma Nicholson has made.

To criticise the Liberal Democrat policies is no more nor less than the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary have said and would say. They, and Michael Portillo, have acknowledged that the Conservative Party is a broad church. Leaving the Conser-

continue to criticise. There is nothing wrong in Michael Portillo doing exactly that

The Admiralty Arch episode is even more absurd. Not only is there no plan to sell it, it is not Michael Portillo's

ministerial responsibility anyway.

When Mr Portillo returns from representing Britain overseas he may feel justifiably aggrieved at the way in which the media and opposition have whipped up these stories into a personal campaign against him. I would suggest that he should continue to be relaxed about this, it is a measure of the opposition's lack of confidence in their own arguments over policy that they have to distort what we say in order to attack it.

The Portillo way is to be clear and precise; to say what he means and mean what he says; if necessary, to carry that clarity through into the logic of the argument. It is that about him which impresses people and which most alarms the opposition. Clarity about Conservative principles and policies contrasts with the emptiness and waffle which so often passes for opposition policy.

The worst thing Conservatives can do is to be drawn into internal debates

opposition policies. He does so with a skill and clarity which, the evidence suggests, is widely appreciated by those who work closely with him, not least in



Victim of a campaign whipped up by opponents and the media

the Ministry of Defence. It is those abil-ities to which the Prime Minister referred in his Breakfast with Frost interview on Sunday.

The job of Conservatives is to be

equally focused upon the same tasks. We are not currently in the business of deciding the future of the Conservative Party; we are in the husiness of Defence, is to offer that.

It would be a honus to Labour strategists if Michael Portillo, one of the Conservative spokesmen most capable of presenting the party's argument forcefully, were to be hurt by friendly

There are some in every political party whose concern is with the personalities - who's on the way up, or on the way down. There are a few, very few, in every political party who regard the ideological debate within their own party as more significant than the contest of ideas and policies between the parties. Ask the Labour Party if it is right to be thus preoccupied. It is not, and the need for the Conservative Party today is to draw upon its shared values and proven policies to demonstrate why we should be re-elected.

This will not be achieved by allowing the Labour Party to obscure the differences between Conservatives and Labour. That is why we should applaud Mr Portillo's approach, not cavil at it. The public look to the Conservative Party for strong and effective policies. His approach, both at the Treasury in terms of public expenditure, and now at the Ministry of

He has set out clear differences in policy between Conservatives and Labour on Europe, the Constitution. the economy, and privatisation. We need more of that, not less. Research with voters shows that those who have become disillusioned with the Government are not going in search of Labour. They are going in search of the certainties and success of Conservatism. They are not looking for a more extreme form of Conservatism but to be reassured that the principles and policies they recognise as Conservative are to be effectively delivered. The Prime Minister and this government have those policies in

execution and in the making. We will never be able to convince sceptical voters of this, however, while we allow strong exponents of those policies to be tranmelled by misinterpretations or false accusations. That is why all Conservatives should not stand by, still less experience any sense of schadenfreude at Michael Portillo's experiences of the past 10 days, but should defend him, as they would any party spokesman, recog-nising the strength he brings to us in taking our message to the British

The writer is prospective parliamentary candidate for South Cambridgeshire and is a former head of the Conservative Research Department.

There has always

adopt foreign babies

world's children - we may have con-

Mitterrand: an amorality tale

The French president was the epitome of a man without principle, argues Jonathan Fenby

Korea's disgraced former presidents to a dozen European funding scandals, politics and morality sit uneasily together.

And nobody epitomised the amorality of politics better than Francis Mitterward Emparis François Mitterrand, France's longest-serving president, who died on Monday. It did him no harm, keeping him in the most powerful elective post in the West for 14 years, but the effects on his country hardly merit the tributes being paid on all sides this week.

The tenacity of Mitterrand's quest for power has become the stuff of legend - how this politician from the pre-atomic age battled for almost four decades before winning supreme power. His reverses and recoveries through the Fourth Republic and the first 23 years of the Fifth Republic were enough to turn anybody into an intensely private, distrustful schemer for whom any sign of dissidence amounted to treason. The irony was that the moment of greatest hope for the progress of the French centre-left was precisely the moment at which a politician rooted in the introverted politics of the Forties and Fifties moved into the

Elysée palace. Mitterrand always insisted that what he prized above all was freedom. What he really meant was irresponsibility to anybody but himself. Thus he could have friendly lunches at his country home in the Seventies with the former collaborationist police chief responsible for the mass deportation of Jews in 1942, and wax indignant when questioned about it. Thus he could play favourites with successive prime ministers, advance the career of a Flash Harry entrepreneur as a sup-posedly serious politician, and block the left's best hope for the Nineties out of personal vindic-tiveness. Thus he could refuse to return the telephone calls of one prime minister, who committed suicide in his depression, switch policies at the drop of a hat and introduce an electoral system

that was bound to aid the rise of the National Front. There were constants: for most of his career Mitterrand supported social reform and was a committed European. But from the abandonment of the initial attempt to build socialism in one country, it was the shifts and manoeuvres that increasingly came to define the man. By his second presidency, from 1986 to 1993, Mitterrand had become the epitome of a man correspondent without principle, the king of a mist 1982-85.

From Mohammed al-Masari court in which the role of chamberlain might be played equally well by a prime minister from left or right and where the monarch's natural daughter was sheltered on the public purse.

The corruption at court echoed beyond the palace walls. Since 1990, dozens of prominent businessmen and politicians have been hauled up on charges of fraud and other wrong-doing. Figures in past Socialist admin-istrations have been accused of involvement in anything from illicit funding arrangements and the diversion of public cash, to scandals over a telephone-tapping ring approved by the Ely-sée and the supply of HIV-con-taminated blood to the national health service.

One former minister was sentenced to jail for rigging a football match; a Mitterrand confidant shot himself in the Elysée; one of the President's oldest friends used official

information for insider dealing. France's scandals are by no means confined to the left. But it does not matter much where the graft is detected. The net effect of the later Mitterrand years - and of the Mitterrand style - has been to undermine public confidence in those who

The corruption at court echoed beyond the palace walls

rule the country and - more important - in the state.

important — in the state.

An opinion poll taken before the presidential election last spring showed that the French wanted to be able to put their confidence in a "strong state". In return, they have traditionally been ready to accept government by elites and by a political class that is not at home with Apple Sarry potions of demonstrations. Anglo-Saxon notions of democracy. But now the centre no longer provides the rock round which the country can revolve.

At some point, back in the Eighties, France's president made one deal too many, stabbed one former associate too many in the back and moved one step too far into the world of politics for its own sake. Mitterrand may have been hailed by Parisian commentators as a political artist, but he leaves a sombre canvas behind him.

The author was Reuter Bureau Chief in Paris 1968-73 and Paris correspondent for the Econo-

Buy a baby, save a life

Thousands will be moved by the TV images of Chinese orpans to try and adopt them. And why not?

Adoption organisations will he bracing themselves today for the inevitable reaction to last night's heart-rending Channel 4 documentary Return to the Dying Rooms. The pic-tures of neglected, Chinese children living in appalling orphanages, ema-ciated and starving, will spur thou-sands into wanting to rescue those tiny abandoned girls. A similar emotional outburst followed the exposure of conditions in Romanian orphanages in 1990. At the BBC, where I then worked, we were swamped with calls from people asking how to adopt the baby in the third cot from the left. Is this a natural outpouring of



human kindness, or a voracious and dangerously sentimental wish to possess pitiful-looking babies? There has always been a rather lofty contempt for desperate infertile Western couples who set off to adopt foreign babies, as if they were predators upon the world's poor families, rather than rescuers. With virtually no healthy new-born babies available for adoption in Britain, more couples seek babies abroad. But often they find themselves treated by officialdom not as saviours, but as marauders.

Illegal haby trafficking in some countries lays them open to charges of colluding with kidnappers. And even when adopting from countries with well-organised official proceedures, couples often encounter deep ideological hostility in this country.

But what harm is there in the rich world taking in the poor world's rejects? As enquiries about adopting Chinese children crescendo, the Overseas Adoption Helpline has already had 1,800 requests for information about Chinese baby girls. China is now the single favourite source of babies for British would-be adopters. A recent reciprocal agreement

between Britain and China has meant that 70 baby girls have been adopted here so far, for the Chinese have no ideological problem with exporting the babies they find so hard to care for. The Chinese stipulate that foreign adopters must have a "home study" report from their local authority (for which the parents must pay up to £3,000), to certify that they are suitable. In addition, they must be childless, over 35, and their papers have to be sent to China through the British Department of Health. The couple pays \$1,000 to the Beijing government and \$3,000 to the orphanage for past care of the child. This appears to be an example of well-regulated adoption.

ANOTHER VIEW Peter Jepson

The Leeds Industrial Tribunal, led by its chairman, John Prophet, des-

erves credit for the courage of its deci-

sion on all-women shortlists in the Lab-

our Party. It would have been relatively

easy for the tribunal to have referred

a difficult decision to the European

Court of Justice - in effect, passing the

buck on what was clearly a very con-



But not in the eyes of some British social services departments. They take their political cue from the powerful umbrella organisation, British Agen-cies for Adoption and Fostering, which has traditionally opposed inter-country adoption.

These days, through audibly gritted teeth, the BAAF has releated a little. Felicity Collier, their director, says: " We believe that wherever possible children should be cared for in their country of origin - though we do accept that occasionally where the problems are so acute, inter-country adoption may be the only root to survival. We feel countries should be helped to care for their own children."

BAAF's attitude reflects a sizeable part of social work thinking. Many prospective adopters still encounter suspicion and sometimes downright hostility from local authorities, who are under no legal obligation to provide the crucial home study reports.

Social workers' distaste for transcultural adoption was fuelled by the Romanian orphanages scandal. The extraordinary scene of thousands of Western couples descending on Bucharest, clutching wads of dollars in search of babies, was a disturbing spectacle - yet no doubt a great many babies were saved from death.

Now the Romanians have virtually closed their doors to adopters as a matter of national pride. This pleases the Ms Collier, who says: They are tions, though it accepts this is never



now recruiting families locally to come forward and adopt, and their childcare facilities are of much higher quality ... I understand Romania no

longer has a problem." This comes as bewildering news to the Romanian Orphanage Trust. Their director says there are still 90,000 children in terrible orphanages filled to overflowing. Many are abandoned by parents who cannot feed them, due to extreme poverty, and they become too severely retarded ever to return home. The illegal trade in Romanian babies still flourishes, with orphanage officials

selling babies abroad in large numbers. The Trust supports foreign adop-

ideological problem with the trade, and it seems to be well-regulated Photographs: John Angerson/ Guzelian

in safe hands:

two-year-old

adoptive

has no

Koreng with her

parents, China

going to be more than a marginal solution to the problem of abandoned children. It is working with the Romanian government to try to divert the £100 a month it costs to keep a child in an orphanage towards providing far cheaper help for families, where the average wage is £50 a month. They see no contradiction between these two policies. If some helpless dying children can be saved by foreign families, that does not hinder the attempt at creating a welfare system to prevent more killed them all quickly? Looking at children being abandoned. They take

a practical, not an ideological, view. The O'Curry family is among those no chance of escape might well be yes, to have fallen foul of the ideology of but I doubt any social worker would their local authority. Four years ago they dare say so outright.

Send a baby box to tributed to many of the world's prob-lems in the first place." She draws on the experience of black British children Bosnia this Winter brought up by white adopters, who, she says, suffer serious problems with their racial identity in a racist culture. However, the basic question she and others don't address is whether a suit-

able adoptive family is one that rescues a child from certain death? Among some social workers there remains an instinctive distaste for people who want to adopt healthy habies middle-class, grasping, only in it for themselves... Why, some of them ask, don't these selfish couples want diffi-cult British 10-year-olds from a lifetime in care, or children with disabil-

ities? Because most ordinary people hope and pray they don't have difficult disabled children. Those who do adopt hard cases are remarkable and admirable people - but why should the unlucky infertile be expected to pre-dominate among them? Adoption from abroad will never

solve the starving world's problems, but each one is at least one child saved. If the risk of emotional scarring is so serious, perhaps the Chinese and Romanians would be kinder if they those desperate babies in last night's film, the humane answer for those with

ments for governments and companies

to comply with laws on discrimination.

it is a nonsense to argue that political

To this extent, the decision of the

As for me, I would welcome the

opportunity to be considered for sel-

parties should be exempt.

my academic career in law.

Disinfectant, nappies, washing materials – not what you'd think of giving someone. But for a desperate mother in Bosnia trying to keep her child safe from infection, the basic essentials inside one of our baby boxes would mean the world. Feed the Children will deliver your box directly into the hands of mothers in Bosnia - many of whom will be sheltering in freezing schools, factories, and bombed-out houses this Winter. Please send a baby box to Bosnia this Winter - help a mother keep her baby safe.

With love from a friend..

Call 0990 600610 now to tell us how many baby baxes you would like to send. Oft please complete and return this form.
Please send ______buby bax(es) at £30 each on my behalf. I enclose a cheque for £_____ (total amount) made payable to Feed the Children OR please debit € _____from my □ Visa □ Access □ Switch

Cord sember ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! Last three digits of Switch card no. / / Switch issue no. /

Leeds Industrial Tribunal should be

ection in any winnable Labour seat, but I shall continue in any case with If you would like to send a message to a Baseion mother, please send it with your donation and we will put it in your body box. Please send to: Feed the Children, The writer won his sexual discrimina-Dept 427, FREEPOST, Reciping, RGT 18R. tion claim against the Labour Party on

troversial decision that had "important constitutional implications" - as counsel for the Labour Party argued. What it chose to do, however, was to make a declaration that the Labour Party had sexually discriminated against both Roger Dyas-Elliott and

myself in the constituencies of Regents Park and Kensington North, Brentford & Isleworth and Keighley. The Labour Party should now accept this decision of the industrial tribunal and get on with planning for the general election. To lodge an appeal in the courts would only establish a sore that would run until, and possibly beyond, the forthcoming election.

Labour should accept the ruling on shortlists

To many, it is seen as wrong that democratic decisions of a political party are challenged in the courts. Democracy, however, is not, and never can be, the tyranny of the majority over the minority, with no

ground rules as to standards. Would it be acceptable for the board of ICI to meet and democratically vote that they will only employ men? Of course not, in a democracy they should, and must, respect the rule of law.

No doubt this can be criticised as the imposition of political correctness, in that the views of the state with regard to what is sexually and racially correct are imposed upon society. But what is the alternative? Surely it cannot be acceptable that we have no employment laws, as some Fleet Street editors have implied, with just the rule of the jungle applying.

The Treaty of Rome requires goveruments to legislate so as to provide equal pay for men and women, with subsequent directives requiring equal treatment among the sexes. Because of these binding international covenants, European governments are obliged to eradicate sexual discrimination, with some welcome attempts being made to extend this obligation

to cover racial discrimination. It is a fact of law that governments are subject to the jurisdiction of the European Community, just as companies are subject to European and domestic laws. Given the legal require-

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welcomed.

Final £3.8bn terms fall short of Forte knockout blow

BUSINESS NEWS DESK: tel 0171-293 2530 fax 0171-293 2098

Granada unveils plan to pay 47p special dividend funded by sale of Meridien and Exclusive hotels

MATHEW HORSMAN

Granada's chief executive Gerry Robinson last night signalled a knife-edge finish to his takeover fight for hotels group Forte, with an increased offer of £3.8bn that falls short of a knockout blow.

Amid one of the toughest takeover fights scen in the nineties, Granada's new terms are worth about 373p a share compared to the initial bid of

327p.
"It will be much or difficult for Forte to remain independent now," said a leading leisure

But other analysts added that Granada would still have to provide greater details on its plans to enhance profits at Forte's restaurants and hotels operations if its bid succeeds. "This is not a killer offer." said one. "It comes down to who can manage better, and precisely what kind of company - a pure hotels group or a hotels-and-food combination - investors

The City was also impressed by the way Granada raised its offer - using a tax-efficient spe-cial dividend of 47p payable to Forte sharcholders once the bid is declared unconditional. For those institutional funds able to avoid tax, roughly 40 per cent of Forte's shareholders, the revised offer from Granada is actually worth 385p a share.

Granada also announced a separate agreement with the Council of Forte, which controls 0.08 per cent of the company's shares hut 50 per cent of the votes. The Council has agreed to step aside, allowing ordinary shareholders to decide the outcome of the hld. Granada will pay the Council £50m for its stake, which is to be used to finance charitable activities.

In a change of strategy. Granada chief executive, Gerry Rohinson, promised to sell

proceeds to help fund the spe-cial dividend. "We decided that we could not attach the same value to these assets as many hotel operators who willing to pay

good prices." he said. Mr Rohinson hinted vesterday that he had never been wedded to the upmarket hotels. "We downplayed our intentions because we were bloody nervous that Forte might paint us as asset-strippers." But once Forte unveiled its own asset disposal plan. Mr Robinson said Granada became "less sensitive" to the

Granada hinted that at least four huyers had made approaches to buy the hotels – including trophy assets such as the



Sir Rocco Forte: accused Granada of 'asset-stripping'

Grosvenor House in Londoo. Granada expects to be able to raise about £2bn from the sale of the hotels. Forte's stakes in the Savoy Group and Alpha Airports, as well as the Welcome Break, motorway service areas. The company expects to hring gearing down to about 70

per cent after the disposals. Forte immediately rejected the increased offer. Sir Rocco Forte, its chairman, said: "Now we see this hid for what it's worth — a 1980s style, highly leveraged asset strip which has

added: "Robinson has turned his previous strategy upside down. He didn't expect the strong defence from Forte and bas been forced to regroup.

Now he is engaging in a firesale of assets. This approach is only a week old, and it shows."

The spokesman added that Granada's revised bid, funded by asset sales, showed the company "could not get backing for a real, substantive increase to reflect Forte's true value. Grana-da is clearly being pushed."

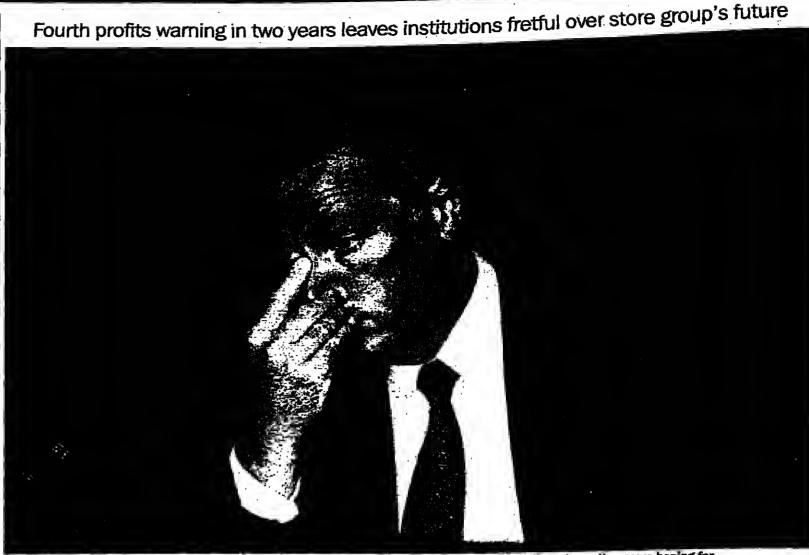
Granada responded that its financing arrangements were solid, and that sub-underwriting was significantly oversubscribed. On the question of strategy, Granada said the core assets it wanted - Forte's restaurants, and budget and midmarket hotels - would be a profitable addition to group businesses, and that the upmarket hotels would fetch good prices from trade buyers. "We are now back to funda-

mentals in this battle," Mr Robinson said. "There has been a lot of huffing and puffing, hut now shareholders have a real

The starkness of that choice was echoed by fund managers. who said they would have to decide whether to stick to a pure hotels play with Forte - pocketing the proceeds of an £S00m share huyhack funded by Forte's planned sale of its restaurants husiness to Whithread - or bet that Granada's management team can provide long-term growth.

Said one leading fund manager; "We came into Forte because we believed that the hotels cycle was turning up. We haven't always been happy with Forte's management, but I'm not sure this is the time to give up on them."

The bid closes on 23 January. Granada shares closed last night at 637p, down 6p, while



Disenchantment: Brian McGowan's stewardship of House of Fraser has not given shareholders the returns they were hoping for

Pressure grows for shake-up at Fraser

NIGEL COPE

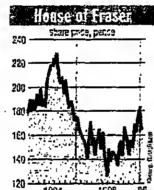
Pressure is growing for senior management changes at House of Fraser, the department store group run by Brian McGowan, a high-fiver in the Eightles, after the company issued its fourth profits warning in two years.

City analysts and institutional sharcholders are expressing disenchantment over the company's performance since the Army & Navy and Dickins & Jones group was launched on the stock market to much fanfare two years ago. Institutional investors are understood to have requested meetings with the company to learn why trading problems

Forte's upmarket Meridien and nothing to do with management Exclusive hotel chains, using the skills." A Forte spokesman Comment, page 17 House of Fraser is not a One shareholder said:

hopeless case but at the trad- hrought in to chair the coming level things do not look good. They don't seem to have control over their stock."

Another investor said yesterday's statement "raised questions about the management." Mr McGowan was



pany and oversee its flotation. Andrew Jennings, the managing director, moved across from Harrods. The company declined to

comment on possible management changes. The fund management group PDFM, which owns a 22 per cent stake in the company, also declined to comment. Talk of a possible takeover has started, although most analyts say the company is not attractive at

the current price. Yesterday's trading statement said that this year profsignificate fall in the operat- only 2.3 per ceot.

tax profits of around £25m for recent appointment of a new ed at a lower price. the year to January but this merchandising director. It

£16m-£18m. The company blamed the problems on changes in its sales mix, saying higher-margin ladieswear and homeware departments had been particularly disappointing, with sales down by 4-5 per cent. The company has been forced to discount stock to clear space for oew ranges

while slow-moving new stock

has also been marked down

aggressively. Tradiog in the week before Christmas was strong, with comparative sales up 8.5 per cent on last year. However, to attract serious interest. its would he well below sales for the 22 weeks to the market expectations after a end of December were up by

The company said it was ad-

was downgraded yesterday to also plans to invest £5m in new technology as part of a threevear programme that will see store refurbishments and new stores in the coming year.

House of Fraser shares were priced at 180p when they were issued in April 1994. After early gains to more than 2000 they have fallen steadily following a series of profit warnings. Yesterday they closed 3p lower at

163p. Some institutions say the company could hecome a takeover target, although the current share price is too high Sears, which owns the Selfridges department store, and Burton, which controls the highly successful Dehenhams dressing the problems with the chain, could both be interest-

Ofgas considers delaying gas competition

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

Ofgas, the gas industry watchdog, has launched an investiga-

tion into whether competition in the domestic gas market should be delayed from the planned starting date of 1 April. Any slippage would be extremely embarrassing for the Government, which until now has been adamant that the opening of the market - initially to 500,000 homes in the South-west - will go ahead on schedule.

It has also emerged that the issue of licences for new public gas shippers and suppliers will be postponed for a month until 1 March following a meeting on Saturday between the Department of Trade and Industry. Ofgas and the industry.

The so-called "appointed day" on which licences will be issued was originally to be in October hut was postponed to December and then February hefore this latest hitch. Ofgas is now thought to have

appointed Chris Rees of Touche Ross to examine whether 1 April remains feasible. One industry source said there were concerns that the computer systems and arrangements for coping with multiple suppliers would not be ready and that a bad start to competition would result in lack of confidence.

This has got to work," he said. The DTI declined to comment. But it is thought that there is now acceptance that the project may slip. The DTI had been determined that compe-

tition for the 500,000 homes would begin in April and be expanded to 2 million households in 1997, with the entire country following by the end of 1998. The timetable for opening the market has been widely considered to be extremely tight.

A spokesman for British Gas' pipeline arm. Transco, confirmed the delay in the issue of licences. But he said Transco, whose pipelines will carry gas for other suppliers, is "working its socks off to ensure that everything is ready on time. Key to the start of competition are the agreements governing the use of the pipelines and the arrangements to ensure that people get the right bills.

Rivals to British Gas. which include North Sea producers and electricity firms, have pri-vately claimed that the company is dragging its feet over competition. Companies including Amerada Hess have promised to undercut British Gas by about 15 per cent - about £50 for the average household - in the South-west.

British Gas, which fears it could lose the most lucrative customers through "cherry-picking" by others, has yet to say what it will do in response. In the industrial and commercial market. where competition is already allowed. British Gas has seen its market share decimated, al-

though it is now fighting back. In the consumer market the company faces the thorny problem of whether it should cut prices in the South-west to match competitors while leaving prices unchanged elsewhere.

year-end performance and thus

his bonus. It contended that it

knew nothing of Mr Jett's ac-tivities. a claim that Mr Jett

If found guilty of the SEC

charges. Mr Jett would proba-

hly face being stripped of ill-got-ten profits, fined up to \$100,000 and banned from the securities

The US Attorney's office in

New York is also preparing

some criminal charges against him, although their filing is not

"I am completely innocent of

industry from life.

imminent.

Boeing beats Airbus to \$4bn Malaysian deal very important customer."

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Airbus, the European aircraft consortium, was dealt another blow yesterday when Malaysian Airline System announced that a \$4bn (£2.6bn) order for 25 planes was being placed with US

rival Boeing.
The order for 15 Boeing 777s and 10 Boeing 747-400s was good news for Rolls-Royce, which also announced that it had secured a £315m contract to supply 30 Trent 800 engines to power the 777s.

The world's two higgest commercial aircraft manufacturers had been in fierce competition for the Malaysian business, and Airbus, led by chairman Jean Pierson, would have hoped to have won part of the deal at least. McDonnell Douglas, the struggling US manufacturer in merger talks with Boeing, had also put in a hid.

Malaysian Airlines said it did not split the order because it could not afford to operate too many different types of aircraft. "There could only be one winner," said Tajudin Ramli, chairman of the airline. "We need to make our engineering more efficient, and this can be done by standardising the type

of equipment we operate."
This is the second big deal that Airbus, whose consortium part-ner British Aerospace huilds the aircraft's wings, has lost in as many months. A \$12.7bn order from Singapore Airlines for 77 aircraft was awarded to Boeing in December.

Bocing captured two-thirds of the global market last year. Boosled by the dollar's weak-ness relative to European currencies, Boeing won \$31.2hn in aircraft orders in 1995, com-pared with \$7bn for Airbus.

An Airbus spokesman said yesterday: "We are very disappointed that the announcement was not in our favour." But he pointed out that Malaysian Airline is still the world's largest user of the Airbus A330, with 10 aircraft, and "so was still a

Airbus was reported to have offered huge discounts to secure the deal, though the company firmly denied this and Mr Taindin said he was unaware of any price-cutting. The Boeings were "slightly more costly, hut they fit in more with our proposed destinations," he said. Boeing has also agreed to invest in Malaysia's fledgling aerospace industry as part of the deal. Airbus is believed to have promised to manufacture aircraft components in Malaysia.



Pipped twice by Boeing: Jean Pierson, Airbus chairman

Boeings in its current fleet of 96 planes. The new order, stretchng over five years, with the first deliveries in 1997, would give it one of the largest Boeing fleets in the world. Mr Tajudin said the fleet expansion was in line with projections that passenger traffic in the Asia-Pacific region would grow by 13 per cent a year

over the next five years.

Analysts said the R-R contract would not have a great impact on profits, but was important because it would strengthen the manufacturers presence in the booming Far East airline market.

Sandy Morris, of NatWest Securities, said the deal was exciting because R-R had fought off arch rival Pratt & Whitney. whose engines are used in Boeing 747s and Airbus AC-30s.

Accountants push for fraud review

The Government is being urged volved in comhatting it believe academics and husiness to set up an independent advisory panel and carry out a review of the law with the aim of simplifying prosecutions as part of a concerted campaign against fraud, which is estimated to cost British industry up to £10bn a year, writes Roger Trapp.
"Fighting fraud sbould come

high on the agenda of government, the criminal justice system, business and the relevant professions," according to a paper published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants yesterday.

While pointing out that it would be wrong to suggest that problem, it adds that "few in-

1977.43

Source: FT Information

there is sufficient appreciation of the danger it presents. If leaders in and out of Parliament were more aware of the full havoc fraud can cause, they would surely seek to actively manage and reduce this key

In an attempt to draw together all those involved in the fight against the problem, the institute is following up the publication of the booklet, Taking Fraud Seriously with a conference today.

The conference will be attended by more than 100 delegates, including heads of fraud squads from all over the country, MPs, lawyers, accountants,

STOCK MARKETS

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representatives. It is hoped that this will provide a forum for discussing the issue and co-ordinating responses to it. Among the other recom-

mendations put forward in the booklet - designed as a discus-sion paper and written by Tony Bingham of Coopers & Lyhrand, Ian Huntington of KPMG and Martyn Jones of Touche Ross - are the creation of a legal duty for regulators to report suspected fraud to auditors, re-examination of the detection role of the statutory auditor in relation to corporate fraud and a code of business practice for dealing with the

Money Market Rate:

) Month

6,47

0.50

3.81

6.37

0.53

New York - Joseph Jett, the trader at the centre of the 1994 hond scandal that led to the demise of his company, Kidder Peabody, is expected to face civil charges of wrong-doing from the Securities and Exchange

Commission as early as today. together with two of his former superiors at the company, writes David Usborne. It is widely expected that as soon as US government officers are hack at work after the East Coast storm, which should be today, the SEC will issue socalled civil administrative charges against the former trader as well as Edward Cerullo, who was head of bond trading at Kidder, and Melvin Mullin,

Long Book (%) Year Ago

Print (s) Charge (s) % Charge

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7 63

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INTEREST RATES

| Medium Band (%)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

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wbo first hired Mr Jett. Both Mr Jett and Mr Mullin have indicated that they plan to fight the charges.

SEC ready to sue Joseph Jett

When it erupted in April 1994, the Kidder scandal shook the financial industry, in part because it involved Mr Jett, one of Wall Street's highest-flying African Americans, It led General Electric to dispose of the firm to PaineWebber for \$670m in December 1994. The firm. which now only maintains a skeleton staff to handle legal claims, is not itself expected to face SEC charges.

Kidder Peabody fired Mr Jett when it discovered that he had atlegedly generated some \$350m in false profits in bond

these charges, I will not allow people to condemn wrongly." Mr Jett said this week. CURRENCIES

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'In his determination to save something of

the family silver. Sir Rocco Forte has been prepared to give the City virtually all it could ask for... bar one thing: his own

head'

Conjuring cannot change Forte's track record But if Germany is in difficulty on that

L decision time approaches. Forte has fought a magnificent campaign. If ever there were a case that deserved to win un public relations effort alone, this is it. During the course of the takeover battle, Forte seems to have brought about a sea change in City perceptions, swinging the position from that of a no-hoper to that of commanding lead over its assailant, Granada.

In the end, however, this is not a difficult choice to make. What we have seen from Forte over the past six weeks amounts to little more than an elaborate show of pyrotechnics. In his determination to save something of the family silver, Sir Rocco Forte has been prepared to give the City virtually all it could ask for - a spectacular share buyback funded by the sale of the company's roadside catering business, the sale of the Savoy stake, the promise of a steadily rising income stream. Everything, that is, har one thing: his own head. Even that may be negotiable, with Sir Rocco possibly prepared to split the roles of chairman and chief executive. But there is one thing that all the conjuring cannot do. It cannot change Forte's track record, which, even on the kindest of interpretations, is a

With a decent hid, if not a knock-out one, now on the table, this is Granada's strongest card and ought to seal Forte's fate. Not that anyone should have any illusions about all its hase motives as an old-fashioned tary Union.

The lines are drawn, the gloves are off, | break-up, what used to be called asset-stripping. Granada plans to keep only the roadside restaurants and the middle- to downmarket hotels. The rest will be sold. Nothing like this - to bid £3.7bn to sell £2bn of assets has been allempted for many a year. Furthermore, with the hid costs now mounting lowards £70m, the cost of failure is high.

The alternative is not particularly alluring either, however. Forte as a pure hotels group may seem to provide the "focus" that shareholders like to see in companies these days. but in truth there is little that unites the management of top-of-the-range trophy hotels with that of the Posthouse chain. Forte's past gives little reason to suppose it can deliver the profits occessary both to fund its dividend promises and the investment these hotels demand. It's time to move over and give somebody else a go.

Dark days in the European heartland

The steep jump in German unemploy-ment in December is a storm signal not just for Germany but for the wider European economy, including Britain. Apart from the obvious danger of slack demand in the engine-room of Europe affecting trading partners through tower demand for exports, the intensity of the German slowdown casts Granada's bid - it was exposed yesterday for | a pall over prospects for European Mone-

The silver lining to the depression sweeping in from Europe's heartland is that Kenneth Clarke will find his path to lower interest rates eased by a further reduction in German rates. It now seems likely that the Bundesbank will cut the discount rate again to 2.5 per cent - a rate only reached once before since the War - this spring.

After stalling in the third quarter of 1995, the German economy now seems certain to have gone into decline in the fourth quarter. The sharp rise in unemployment of 68,000 in December - the highest for more than two years and the fifth consecutive monthly increase - testified to a seriously sagging economy. Industrial output in October and November was more than 2 per cent below the third-quarter average.

Bear in mind that even the picture of flat output in the third quarter was a flattering one. Without a hig rise in stockbuilding, economic activity would have fallen substanually. Against this background, the decision of a leading German economic institute, the DIW, to halve its growth forecast for 1996 from 2 to I per cent looks plausible rather than alarmist.

While conceding that Germany was now likely to miss the Maastricht criterion of a hudget deficit of 3 per cent or less in 1995, Theo Waigel, the German finance minister, claimed that Germany would make amends in 1996. This looks more like the bravado of finance ministers around the world rather than a realistic prognosis.

front, how much more so will France be? The Bundesbank's half-point cut in the discount rate in December opened up headroom for a further reduction in the intervention rate tomorrow by the Banque de

But even if the Bundesbank cuts again, the easing in monetary policy looks like com-ing too late to lift French economic growth much above 1.5 per cent next year.

If the dollar weakens in the spring as Japanese institutions liquidate dollar-based assets to meet end-of-year reporting goals, the franc fort policy could come under renewed pressure. The moment of maximum danger for the French usually attends dollar weakness. To the beleaguered French authorities, the goal of meeting the Maas-tricht deficit objective looks ever more like an endlessly receding mirage.

With a quarter of visible exports going to

France and Germany, the British economy will not be able to escape the downdraft from a tailspin in the heartland of the European economy. The Treasury's forecast of a recoverv in exports of goods and services to over 7 per ceot in 1996 looked over-optimistic at the time of the Budget; oow it looks increasingly unachievable.

The jump in German unemployment also serves as a further antidote to Tony Blair's vision of the stakeholder economy. If any European country offered a role model and deserved such a souhriquet it was Germany.

an economy than a job, something that the German economic system is no longer any better at providing than Britain.

Time to move house at Fraser

House of Fraser has heed a nightmare on the high street, for its shareholders at least. The lumhering department store group has promised much but delivered little since it came to market two years

lon

It is now three years since the Fayed hrothers of Harrods fame sold the group, so it is no good excusing this poor performance as the curse of the Fayeds. Brian McGowan, the much-feted 1980s star who performed so well at Williams Holdings, and Andrew Jennings, who left Harrods to become House of Fraser's managing director, must take the

It was Mr McGowan's presence as chairman that lured around 100,000 private investors into House of Fraser. But the shares, priced at 180p on flotation, have been hit by four profit warnings and now stand 10 per cent below the issue price. They have been given the heoefit of the doubt several times by patient institutions, but Mr McGowan and his fellow directors should one be asking themselves who their successors will be.

Labour attacks 75% workforce cut at National Power

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

The Labour Party slammed National Power yesterday for cutting jobs by almost threequarters over the past three years while the pay of the company's chairman has tripled.

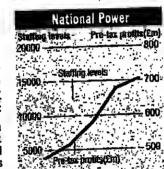
The attack was sparked when National Power, the nation's largest electricity generator, announced that it was to cut 400 jobs, bringing its workforce to around 4,500 compared with almost 16,000 at privatisation five years ago. The Labour Party said it was "disgusting" and claimed that the 11,000 joh losses at the company have cost the taxpayer £49m in lost tax and benefits.

lan McCartney, shadow employment minister, said: "National Power may have cuts its workforce by two-thirds since privatisation, but the 'cost savings' have stopped at the board-room door." He said boardroom pay had "rocketed" over the period with the remuneration of John Baker, until recently chief executive, increasing from £106,000 in 1991 to £398,000 last year. Mr Baker is now paid £180,000 in his capacity as

National Power said the reductions, which will be made

among management and clerical staff at the company's headquarters in Swindon, would help to save £40m in 1996/7 and poses increasing efficiency, but Tory Britain that always seems to mean joh cuts for the work-

The joh cuts caused uproar from the staff unions, with Celia Pilay, national officer for the Engineer and Managers' Association, saying that the unions would challenge the move through the consultation process. "It is difficult to think of a worse start to 1996. These latest cuts threaten to turn a lean



Unison, which said it would seek f60m the following year. But Mr McCartney said: "No one opin the privatised utilities of

urgent talks to try to reduce the planned cuts. Mick Brade, Unison's senior regional officer in the soutern region, said: "The consequences will be stress and loss of morale. It demonstrates that the threat of job insecuriforce and pay rises for the ty is in the workplace and not in people's minds as some Tory ministers believe." National Power said its improved efficiency had come

company into an anorexic one,"

Her anger was echoed by

from a range of measures, nol only reductions in staff. A spokesman added that benefits have been passed on, with typical industrial customers seeing electricity prices fall by around 23 per cent since the industry was privatised. Andrew Swanson, company

ecretary, said a review of nonpower station costs, which resulted in the latest 400 losses, had heen carried out "against a hackground of increasing competition in electricity

Mr Swanson added: "National Power believes that the cost savings and increased efficiency will enable the company to continue to compete vigor-ously in its home market whilst developing the business abroad."

Shares fell 6p to close at an all-time low of 77p after spec-ulation started in Paris that

Company denies crisis amid widespread City speculation it may file for bankruptcy



No end in sight: Sir Alistair Morton's tenure at Eurotunnel is looking increasingly precarious

Shares plunge over Eurotunnel fears

RUSSELL HOTTEN and DAVID HELLIER

The precarious position of Eurotunnel was underlined yesterday after widespread City rumours that the Channel Tunnel operator had filed for

bankruptcy. Shares fell 6p to close at an Eurotunnel, co-chaired by Sir Alastair Morton, had called a ress conference for this morning to announce its collapse. On the Paris bourse, Eurotunnel was off nearly 4 per cent, closing at Fr6.20.

Sources close to Eurotunnel's banks described the rumours as nonsense, while a Eurotunnel spokesman in Paris said they were without basis." The com-

been called to announce upbeat trading and forecasts.

banks among the 220-strong consortium holding Eurotunnel's £8bn debt are to sell a large part of their borrowings. According to Klesch & Co, the secondary deht specialist

which has been persistently

Tokyo-hased financial instilutions, hard pressed because of domestic problems, are expected to sell their borrowings The nervousness was fuelled by reports that the Japanese by the end of March.

Eurotunnel's agent banks say they do not know if the Japanese hanks have written off any deht. Eurotunnel had hoped to present a financial plan to banks by the end of January, although

pany's press conference has hearish on Eurotunnel, many it is now increasingly likely that il will only be able to provide a progress update.

This expectation led many analysts to conclude that a complete debt restructuring was becoming increasingly difficult and that receivership may well be an option. The fact that the banks adviser from Coopers & Lybrand was in Calais added weight to that theory.

Payouts to fraud victims soar

NIC CICUTTI

Compensation payments to vic-tims of fraud or had advice are set to rocket by 75 per cent, up from £16m last year to £28m for the tax year ending in March.
The Investors' Compensa-

tion Scheme, the financial industry's safety net, is being forced to pay more and more compensation by the collapse of growing oumhers of independent financial advice firms. Some £20m has already been paid out in the first nine months

of this financial year, with payments averaging up to £3m a month. ICS officials privately predict future years' payouts are likely to rise even further. The scale of this year's pay-

outs, after several years of steady falls, increases pressure

on the Personal Investment Authority, the industry watchdog, to reorganise its contributions to the beleaguered scheme once and for all.

Unless it is, experts believe the scheme will be unable to meet claims lodged against it by thousands of victims of the pension transfer scandal.

Once it begins to compensate thousands of people wrongly urged to leave their occupa-tional pensions and switch their funds into private ones, payouts by the scheme may explode.

Nearly all the compensation will have to be met by members of the PIA, which is liable for a levy of up to £100m. Some estimates of the compensation needed are several times that

Gareth Marr, a member of

the PIA pensions working par-ty, and also managing director of Moors Mart Bradley, a leading firm of advisers, said: "I have total sympathy for the idea of rigorous regulation on behalf of

But the worst possible scenario is that a decent adviser is pushed out of business because of heavy financial demands, that he is not responsible for, from the scheme." The PIA is expected to issue a discussion paper on investor compensation

shortly. About three or four firms are declared in default each month by the ICS. Its staff are now exining more than 200 financial advisers that have gone hust in recent months to check whether their clients are entitled to compensation. David

Cresswell, customer services manager at the compensation scheme said: "We are hoping that this is a short-term bulge

rather than a long-term trend. "What we are seeing is the final gasp from former members of Fimhra [the financial watch-dog replaced by the PIA]. Once they are declared in default by us, then payments are made in relation to past years' negligent advice. We then expect the scale of claims to fall again."

Mr Cresswell admitted this

did not take pension compensation into account: "They are the big unknown. But it is not for us to have a view on how the scheme is set up.

"Our only concern is to pay eompensation to investors entitled to it, as effectively as

kets. Nomura is a member of the consortium that set up the winning bid for Angel, which owns nearly 3,700 passenger carriages and has lease revenues of £291m.

Restructure for bridal-wear group Brackenhridge, the Pronuptia and Youngs bridal-wear company is being restructured via an acquisition and a capital-raising exercise.

The company is paying £525,000 for Langside, a provider of men's formal wear. Langside's managing director Charles Brine will become chief executive of the enlarged group, which is to change its name to Formal Group. To finance the acqusition, the company is raising £1.9m via a placing and open offer at 1p per ordi-

IN BRIEF

Nomura, the Japanese securities house, yesterday launched a £550m international fund-raising for Angel Train Contracts, oce of the three British Rail rolling stock leasing companies sold by

the government last year. Guy Hand, head of the principal finance

group at Nomura in London, said the issue fulfilled a commit-ment to provide Angel with access to international capital mar-

Train leasing group looks for £550m

Allied man received £680,000 pay-off

David Jarvis received £687,845 from Allied Domecq in compensation for loss of office as head of the drinks group's spirits and wines operation, according to the company's annual report. Mr Jarvis re-emerged within three months of leaving Allied as chief executive of Hilton International, Ladbroke's hotel husiness.

£2.2m for former NFC directors

Former directors of NFC received £2.2m in severance payments for loss of office according to the transport and distribution group's annual accounts. NFC has made sweeping changes to its board recently in an attempt to turn the tide of its poor performance.

SFO may re-open Barings inquiry

The Serious Fraud Office is considering reopening its investigation into the Baring's collapse after a court in Singapore cleared access to papers belonging to Barings Futures Singapore, where Nick Leeson carried out his ruinous derivatives speculation.

Kleinwort buys Warburg leasing business

Kleinwort Benson has acquired Warburg's leasing husiness for an undisclosed sum. The acquisition comprises the whole of the former SBC Warburg big ticket leasing portfolio and the ten-man team, led by Michael Hardwick. The combination with Kleinwort's existing business should result in a £1bn leasing operation.

Rowland re-elected Lloyd's chairman

David Rowland has been re-elected chairman of Lloyd's of London for 1996. John Stace was re-elected deputy chairman and John



section covering vital issues in accountancy, public sector finance and the legal profession.

See pages 13 - 15 section two

To book your advertisement call The Finance & Legal Team on 0171 293 2310

Every Wednesday in the THE INDEPENDENT section two

Alarm at German jobless rate

The number out of work in Germany leapt by 68,000 last month, hringing the national unemployment rate to within a whisker of 10 per cent, and fuelling fears about the health of Europe's largest economy.

The figures came as former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt described the German economy as a "shackled Gulliver" with overregulation inhibiting investment. He warned that the overvalued German mark was the most negative factor in the economy. The former Social Democrat

leader called for cuts in both public spending and taxation.

"If we don't want endless strikes like in Paris, class war like in England or a crippling of pub-lic services like the United States, then we must pull ourselves together in 1996," he warns in tomorrow's weekly edition of Die Zeit.

Union dismay at effects of 'shackled Gulliver' economy, Imre Karacs writes from Bonn

Figures released by the Federai Labour Office yesterday showed that seasonally adjusted unemployment rose by 68,000 in December to stand at 9.9 per cent of the workforce. The unadjusted total rose by

212,000 to 3.8m. The statistics also indicated that the so-called "unity boom", driven by soaring demand in the east, was over. There were massive job losses in the eastern part of the country, taking the un-employment rate to 15.2 of the

workforce. In the west, unemployment rose to 8.6 per cent. Another 1m workers on retraining schemes or in early retirement are exchided from the statistics.

The latest figures suggest that the economy is slowing down far more rapidly than the government had predicted. The Economics Ministry had forecast stagnation in the second half of the current financial year, with growth resuming in the summer. But even if that were to happen, the number out of work will cross the psychologically important 4m barrier by the spring, and the jobless rate will hit

double figures, probably next month. Alarmed by the rate at which German jobs are disappearing. often to foreign countries, the government has endorsed a union IG Metall for a pact beposed to trim holiday bonuses. | Charman was elected deputy chairman, replacing Robert Hiscox. proposal by the largest trade

tween workers and employers. Last year the 3-million strong engineering union resorted to strikes to extract an annual four-per cent pay rise over two

Now IG Metall is calling for an "Alliance for Jobs" with employers, and is prepared to keep next year's wage demands at the level of inflation, currently less than two per cent. In exchange, it wants a commitment from the employers to create 300,000 new jobs by 1998.

Gesamtmetall the employers' organisation, said it was unfair to expect employers to conjure up 100,00 jobs this year vhile the workers were about to receive their 4 per cent wage increase. The employers also wanted lower starting wages for those returning from long-

Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Investors face a dangerous year

One of the highlights of the otherwise dull post-Christmas period in early January is the annual visit to London of units the fear of overpaying (fear). Boh Farrell, the senior investment advisor to Merrill Lynch in New York.

The bullish outlook is confirmed by a number of cyclical pointers, which One of the leading market strategists—while they seem unscientific do appear in the US, he always attracts a big crowd of fund managers eager to hear his views on what the next 12 months decade (1945, 1995 etc) has been poshold. Having largely missed out on the Dow's remarkable surge last year. Dow's remarkable surge last year.
Which caught almost everyone on the 3 down! Be warned, though, the 7th hop, it was no surprise to see so many at yesterday's talk.

He didn't disappoint. If he is right about 1996, we are in for a volatile year on Wall Street which means London will undoubtedly be buffetted in the side winds.

While the past is rarely a good guide to the future in investment, statistic after statistic suggests worryingly that 1996 could be the most dangerous year for stock markets since 1929,

Some of the pointers towards a grossly overvalued stockmarket include the following:

☐The period from October 1990 twhen the stockmarket had just fallen 22 per cent in the run up to the Gulf ry without a 12 per cent or greater correction. The Dow's gain in 1995 has been the biggest in any year since 1975.

Unitial public offerings and mutual fund sales are at record highs, as are volumes on the stockmarket. The vield on US stocks, at just 2.29 per cent. is lower than at any time since 1929. suggesting that investors are ignoring the important fact that half the average annual return on shares comes from dividend payouts.

American households have a historically high percentage of their assets tied up in equity investments. The market value of all equity and fixed income securities is a higher proportion of total corporate assets than at any time since the war and the stockmarket as a proportion of nominal GDP is higher than at any time since, you guessed

These ought to be alarming statis-ties and against that weight of information the counter arguments seem flimsy: they state that demographic changes mean that the US is trans-forming itself from a nation of consumers to investors which will shift the levels at which alarm bells start ringing: also, as foreign investors largely missed out on last year's party, they will move in this year, extending the fes-tivities; finally, bull markets always run

itive in every decade for a century, the year has a dreadful record, especially when, as in the 1990s, it is the year after a presidential election. That is a year off, however, in the meantime volumes, which tend to peak 5 months before the market follows suit, are rising, which suggests the market still has momentum. New issue activity is also encouragingly buoyant.

So much for the market. As Mr Farrell is the first to admit, however, get-ting market timing right is far less effective in investment terms than picking the right stocks. He tells the stnry of two investors, one of whom jumped in and out of the market at all of its peaks and troughs between 1940 and 1973 while the other stayed fully War) is the longest period this centu- invested, but always in the best per-

S&P 500 dividend vield

Major Sector Plays

Market: at a glance

35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75

Age of

Post World War II themes & styles

Industrial

into a useful \$86,000, not a bad return. The second, however, had his feat been achievable, would have turned his \$1,000 into a cool \$4.3bn

Of course neither route is a realistic possibility, but the point is well made. In a vulatile market, the need for selectivity is greater than ever, so what are Mr Farrell's tips for the

Japan, he thinks, will have a good couple of years, but be careful this is a cyclical bounce and does not reflect underlying growth. Dollar assets will do well as the currency moves in the right direction. Small cap stocks will outperform their larger peers, gold will break nut of its current trading range and selected emerging markets will out-perform the established centres.

Longer term, the themes for the 1990s which will drive stocks this year and for the rest of the decade could be as follows: expect producer assets to be huoyant as capital spending rises in a major productivity push; the communications revolution will continue apace: and demographic changes mean massive opportunities for healthcare stocks in the broadest sense. Tread carefully this year, however - there have

1980s

Age of debt foranced

Stocks

1970s

Mix of large-cap Large-cap

& small-cap stocks

1990s

S Issinguation

Small &

mic-can stocks

The first investor turned \$1,000 never been two successive years without at least a 5 per cent correction. Whatever it is, 1996 is unlikely to be dulf for investors.

Bespak still has its problems

Bespak ought to be a go-go stock. The company leads the world in the manufacture of asthma inhaler valves, which were at the centre of Rhone-Poulenc Rorer's recent £1.8bn hid for Fisons, and sell into the respiratory drugs secint, the fastest-growing part of the phar-maceuticals market. Instead, the shares languish at less than half the 1993 peak of 707p, even after vesterday's 10p rise

to 325p.

The old management which led Bespak astray has gone, but despite yes-terday's announcement of a L5 per cent rise in interim profits to £3.51m, it is clear that only some of the company's problems have gone with them.

Aftermore than a year of discussion, attempts are still being made to modify the oncrous royalties payable nn a new valve to ML Laboratories' subsidiary finnovata Biomed. Last year's massive £18.6m write off should ensure all news on this front is good in future.

There was also a welcome return to profits of £500,000 in the two US Tenax subsidiaries, where restructuring deepened trading losses to £1.3m in the second half of last year. The 2 per cent fall in sales from Tenax Danbury to US Surgical, the main customer for its surgical equipment components, was the best performance in three years.

Even so. Bespak remains heavily exposed to the vagaries of the large pharmaceuticals. A recovery from last year's destocking by Glazo Wellcome and Fisons, which together account for more than a third of group sales, was the main propellant behind a 32 per cent rise in UK profits to Sm.

Glaso's recently izunched dry powder Accuhaler, along with new products from Fisons, should keep sales moving ahead in the short run, while there is potential to apply inhaler technology to other drugs further out. But Bespak's management, further strengthened yesterday, will have to work hard to diversity the customer base to improve the quality of earnings. On a prospective p e of 15, assuming profits of £8.3m this year, the shares look fairly rated.

BT under fire after an expensive line goes dead

Barely a week in the job and Sir Peter Bonfield, the new chief executive brought into BT for his technical exper-tise, is already facing the wrath of the fourth estate. Some bright spark cut a main cable at London's Maida Vale exchange on Fri-day plunging Loot, the na-tional free-to-advertise publication, into a vacuum. Despite frantic phone calls (from the nearest working pay phone) BT was unable to restore service for the 25 bours covering the paper's

busiest perind. "As soon as our phones started working again the switchboard was jammed with people wanting to know what had happened," said Eileen Ford, the editor.

Demands for compensation (for loss of goodwill) including a letter to chairman Sir lain Vallance - have so far fallen on deaf ears. Now the daily paper, which sells 120,000 copies a week, has resorted to launching full scale attacks against BT on its from page.
Today's from page reads.

We apologise if you had difficulty getting through. But British Telecom let us down

BT rival Cable & Wireless is lapping it up. It has taken a slot underneath the message to advertise its Mercury One 2 One service.

Even the blizzards of the century could not stop Bob Farreif leaving the stricken east coast of America for his annual New Year sermon to Loaden disciples. The diffident senkt investment advisor at Marrill Lynch is accorded guru status these days. And with the Dow Johes Industrial Average up le per cent since last January this was always going to be a key ball-gazing. In the event it was standing from only. The Butchers Hall venue was positively bearing with many a respected fund



nff this mortal coil in a spiral nf cocaine and alcohol, will tura in his grave. His name is being used to promote the image of that other breed which lives life on the edge - the UK mortgage broker. The invitation to the 21st birthday party of John Charcol, provider of upmarket loans, reads: "John Belushi - he knew how to party. John Charcol - so do we". Soon to form part of the broker's advertising campaign.

manager forced to sit on the floor.

And what did they learn? Mainly that Mr Farrell had flown over on Concorde. When people start flying on Concorde you know the bull market has peaked," ob-served the prophet. "Mind you," he added dryly. "Concorde might be extravagant but the hotel they put me in

Jimmy Herbert, the City's oldest working broker, today reaches the assonishing milestone of 85 with both his marbles and enviable client list intact. A slight cold aside. the Branston Gothard man is in fine fettle and will celebrate the occasion with "old mates at The Fox bostelry. also known as "the market."

"I really enjoy my work, warts and all," insists the former boxer. "It's not the same as when it was eyehall to eyecall, of course. But the friendship is still there in the

City so there is no point in retiring." Mr Herbert, whohas a weekend home in Bath. commutes from London's west-end during the week. arriving at his desk at 7.00 am. He lives in a flat in Upper Berkeley Street- a property that a friend lent him on the understanding that he pick up the bills. "He thought I would only be there for two or three years." said Mr Herbert vesterday. That was 20 years ago."

What Juhn Major giveth with one hand the Lord taketh away with the other. The newly-knighted Sir Stanley Kalms, chairman of Dixons, will unfortunately be unable to milk the standing evation that would have undoubtedly bave greated him at today's announcement of the electrical retailer's hallyear figures.

After a 40 year wait for this moment. Siz Stanley has gone down with ilu.

Rhône-Poulenc warns on profits

MAGNUS GRIMOND

Rhône-Poulene, the French chemicals and pharmaceuticals giant, yesterday sent a shudder through the Paris stock market after it warned of lower than expected profits for this year. Shares in the group slid 6.20 francs to Ff100.80 following the announcement - which pinned most of the hlame on the economic downturn in the fourth quarter, the French transport strikes and the need to contribute to government efforts to stem the national deficit.

The company said that the £1.8hn acquisition of Fisons by its US subsidiary. Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, would also result in exceptional charges, although these had been foreseen last year.

Brokers saw the warning as a possible prelude to further bad news from France's major companies in the wake of the recent economic squalls. But the main CAC-40 index closed little changed, ending down just 0.27 points at 1,916.29.

Rhone-Poulenc had previously forecast a significant rise in 1995 results, even talking of "double-digit" growth earlier in the year. But yesterday it said: Based on the first indications of activities in the fourth quarter, and without taking account of possible effects of the Fisous

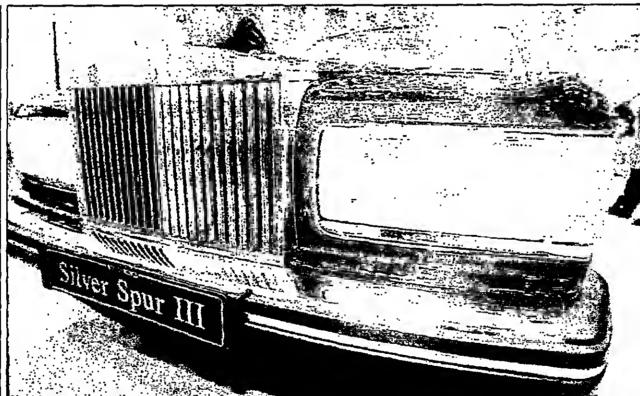
integration, the group is now expecting lower results than previously forecast."

Besides the downturn in the conomy from last September, the company said that the transport strike at the end of last year and the exceptional contributions to the social security deficit, had led to the change in forecast. It also said it would be increasing "slightly" the amount of provisions for last year.

A source close to Rhone-Poulenc said: "The 1995 net artributable profit will be at the same level as the 1994 profit. FΩbn is a maximum." Even al this lower level, the figure will he higher than the Ff1.92hn struck in 1994. Net profits increased 71 per cent to Ff1.96bn for the first nine months of 1995. despite a 17 per cent fall in the third quarter due to higher provisons and tax charges.

The company source said that the downturn in the economy would cost the company Ff300m, with the three week public sector strike - which forced closure of some chemicals production units in the Rhone-Alpes region – adding a further Ff200m.

Meanwhile, the pharmaceutical industry is in negotiations with the government over a Ff2.5bn contribution being sought by the government from the industry to help cut the social security deficit.



Higher gaar: Rolls-Royce's biggest increase in sales last year was in the US market

Photograph: Rex Features

Rolls-Royce fights back in US

RUSSELL HOTTEN

A strong marketing effort in America is beginning to pay off for Vickers' luxury car division, Rolis-Royce, which saw a 25 per cent rise in US sales last year. Although sales are still way below pre-recession levels in the

US, the company believes it has regained its place in the world's most important car market. Vickers shares rose 15p to 272p. R-R, long rumoured to be on BMW's takeover list, sold 1,556 Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars world-wide in 1995, up 10 per cent on 1994. The biggest rise

vesterday. R-R has concentrated heav-ily on marketing in the US, and

came in the US, where sales

in the summer introduced a leasing scheme, which accounted for 10 per cent of sales there.

A company spokesman, Chris Ladley, rejected suggestions that the scheme would demean the famous name. All companies are starting leasing programmes. It encourages potential owners who are hesitating about enjoying the Rolls-Royce experience." he said.

In 1989, R-R sold 1,200 vehicles in the US, though because of the weak dollar it is thought many of these cars were destined for countries in the Pacific Rim. The company sold 3,000 cars world-wide. But the American recession.

rose from 335 to 420 vehicles, and the imposition of a luxury tax, hit sales hard, and R-R sank according to figures published into loss and became a drain on Vickers' resources.

r , Rolls Royce retail sales

These tatest figures are evidence that the car-maker's steady climb out of recession is continuing. Sales in Japan in 1995 rose from 116 to 121, and continental Europe from 216 to 230. In the UK, sales rose from 460 to 493, up 7 per cent. But in the Middle East sales fell

from 75 to 71. Chris Woodwark, R-R chief executive, said: "A 10 per cent increase in retail sales world-wide means we are out-performing the market, which shows that the strategies we are pursuing, particularly in getting closer to our customers, are working"

The company has invested more than £75m in product development over the past two years. The £215,000 Bentley Azure was launched in March. and the target production of 118 vehicles were sold. The car sells for double the price of a normal Rolls-Royce, and the company expects to build more than this number in 1996.

After heavy cost-cutting. R-R is back in profit, but Vick-ers does not disclose details.

COMPANY RESULTS Pre-tax £ Dividend 35 7m (51 6m; 3.5m (5 0m) 9 2p (7.9p) 4 (0m (4,35m) 0 (3m (-0.13m) m) (-1 0p) 120 (27) 17 2m (17 5m) 1.30m (2.05m) 2.5p (4.3p) (P) - Pari (I) - minim (N) - None member

IN BRIEF

Tomorrow's Leisure edges into the black

ast summer's bot weather has dented sales at Tomorrow's Leisure. the USM-quoted leisure group. Some of the group's indoor attractions - such as Pleasure Island in Liverpool and Harveys in the Metro Centre in Gateshead - were the hardest hit. In the six months to October group sales fell from to £4m from last year's £4.5m. However the group reported a profit of £39.000 for the period compared with a £400.000 loss last year.

Crown extends Disney range

Crown Products, the Aim listed arts crafts and games company, has extended its range of Disney licences. It will make and distribute products based on Disney's latest film Toy Story, recently released in the US, and on Hunchback of Notre Dame, an animated film due for release this summer.

Profits slump at VHE

Profits at VHE Holdings, the Yorkshire civil engineering group. fell to £1.1m for the six months to September, compared with £2m last year. The company is still in dispute with the Black Country Development Corporation over a contract. Sales rose from

£3.5m polythene deal

British Polythene Industries has paid £3.5m for Zedcor, an Oxforshire polythene group in a cash and shares deal. Zedcor reported pre-tax profits of £478,000 on sales of £8.5m last year.

Traffic news goes on-line

Trafficmaster, the traffic information provider, has announced a three-year deal with the RAC to sponsor a Trafficmaster-ITN joint venture to provide traffic information to broadcasters. Meanwhile, Trafficmaster and Vauxhall are joining forces to create a new traffic information service on the Internet.

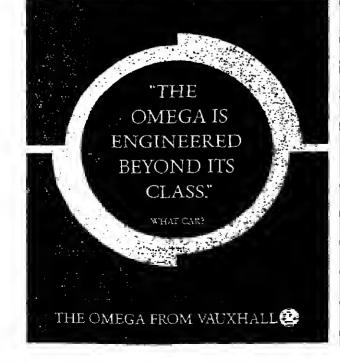
Allen expands tool hire business

Alten, the building and contracting group, has raised £1.33m in a placing to pay for the acquisition of eight more depots for its tool hire business. The cash raising at 214p will pay the bulk of a purchase price not exceeding £1.5m for Rentall, owner of the depots in the Midlands and along the M4 corridor.

Bluebird cuts 50 jobs

Bluebird Toys is shedding 50 jobs at Merthyr Tydfil. The company makes modelling compounds and toys such as the Polly Pocket range. When it came to South Wales in 1988 the firm was hailed as a saviour in an area where the last coat mine was just closing. Bluebird intends switching production overseas, leaving about 200 staff in South Wales, in warehousing and UK distribution.





Universal Salvage shrugs off contract loss

TOM STEVENSON City Editor

Universal Salvage, the recently floated dealer in written-off motor cars, shrugged off the loss of husiness from AGF, the insurance company, to record a 9 per cent rise in trading profits in its first results since coming

to the market in September. The loss of the AGF contract was more than made up for by strong underlying growth in others for spare parts. About 13

the number of vehicles Uni-versat handled for existing clients and the addition of new clients. The company came to the market in the hope of im-proving its credibility with large

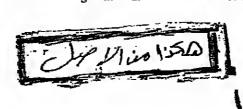
insurance companies. Universal buys wrecked cars from insurance companies for a proportion (between 8 and 25 per cent) of their value and then sells on at auction those that can be rescued and breaks up the

per cent of the UK's 500,000 crashed cars pass through the company's books. Founded 27 years ago by

chairman Clifford Bassett, the company has prospered in its unglamorous but profitable niche. Profits soured over the past five years from £553,000 to £3.38m, and the trend continued in the six months to October with profits up from £2.0nt to £2.18m before the £668.000 cost of coming to the market.

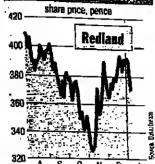
flotation, a 1.52p dividend was paid out of underlying earnings per share of 5.44p (4.94p). The shares added 2p to 217p. at which point they have added a third since trading started four months ago. The market has concentrated on the company's strong cash flow rather than arguably questionable earnings quality, which depends to a large extent on a small handfut of insurance companies.

As forecast at the time of



<u>1839.7 -8.8</u> SEAQ VOLUME 872.3m shares. 32,132 bargains Gilts Index

95.41 +0.18 SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, perice



Takeover hopes boost British Gas in busy trading

The suspicion that British Gas Gas standards, been tantalisis destined for takeover action returned to the stock market. sending the shares of the unpopular gas utility 3.5p higher

lo 261p. The Gas advance was achieved in a twitchy, uncertain session, often dominated by wild rumours. Like other power shares Gas is drawing strength from the recent wintry weather, which has helped lift the shares from the 226.5p

low hit last month. But the feeling is growing in certain quarters that the shares are not relying entirely on any improvement in trading prospects. And Gas's relatiooship with its regulator remains sufficiently strained to

dampen market sentiment. The high turnover in Gas shares is being cited to support the corporate action theory. As a major group it features daily in the high volume tables. But the turnover has, even by

ingly high. For example, Scaq on the last trading day of liest

Yesterday only Forte - in the grip of takeover action - was more busily traded than Gas. The Forte turnover was 36.8 million with Gas achieving 19.3 million.

British Petroleum is resarded as the most likely to put Gas out of its misery. Gas has market capitalisation of £11.4bn and BP is one of the few giants which could afford such an adventure. BP slipped 3.5p to 546p, still

month high. Shell, another seen as a possible candidate, also fell 3.5p - to 874p. The rest of the market was intrigued and weakened by rumours of more difficulties for the Tories and a disturbing buzz that Eurotunnet was about to

reach the end of the line.

within a whisker of its 12

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN

Stock market reporter of the year

shares fell op to 77p, a new low, as rumours swirled it could soon be overwhelmed by its financial problems and the shares would be suspended.

It seems a conference called for today in Calais, which is likely to have an upbeat trading message, provoked the sudden hout of jitters, a reaction which illustrates how fretful the market has become over Eurotunnel which is working

on a refinancing.

On Monday the shares fell 5p on worries Japanese banks would decide not to support

the restricturing.

Whithread fell 17p to 681p
on the revised Granada hid for

In late trading Eurotunnel's ares fell op to 77p, a new low, rumours swirled it could feeling that a Granada victory would lead to a swift takeover of the Savoy Hotel

> higher to 953p. Rolls-Royce, which is buying a French crane maker for £1.7m, held at 195p as Malaysian Airlines confirmed its was buying Boeing 777 air-craft with Rolls engines. British Aerospace, the day's best performing blue chip, rose 22p to 824p on growing optimism about the Orange flotation with the underwriting syndicate said to be in place.

BT. with Societe Generale

Strauss Turnbull support, rose

group pushed its "A" shares 23p

seot the shares purring 15p

higher to 272p.
Cobham. the engineer.
gained 12.5p to 507.5p following Monday's meeting with fund managers and an analysis'

conference. Redland's surprise profil warning lowered the shares another 9p to 372p with housebuilder Barratt Developments losing 4p to 257p.

Hnuse of Fraser, the stores

chain, produced the day's profit warning, falling 3p to 163p.
Airtours remained firm on tales of a Virgin link, climbing 16p to 406p. Hillsdown gained 5p to 176p

– a two day gain of 9p – on persistent rumours that it bas some major meat disposals planned.

Henlys, the vehicles group, motored ahead 43.5p to 540.5p. And Monument Oil & Gas gained 3.5p to 61.75p as

9.5p to 357p. Better-than-ex- busy trading reflected the highpected car sales from Vickers er crude price and a nagging suspicion that a bid could materialise.

Bank of Scotland, up 5.5p to 300p, responded to the success of its Australian banking venture; HSBC slipped to 1,007.5p on suggestions it was about to bid for insurance broker Steel Burrill Jones, up 3p at 46p. Queens Moat Houses, the struggling hotel group, had another busy session, gaining 0.75p to 13.75p on persistent

speculative buying.

British Dredging, where a little-known Panamanian company is stake-building, put on 11p to 124p on talk of corporate activity.

Ladbroke fell 4p to 150p as Bass bid speculation faded but there is now vague talk that Scottish & Newcastle could be

Rexam, the packaging group, fell 12p to 380p as vague bid speculation faded.

SkyePharma, the reborn

Black & Edgington, made an active debut on AIM. After the financial reshaping the group is now a modest drugs nperation, which Ian Gowrie-Smith, the deal maker who helped create the Medeva medical group, hopes to transform into a major international business. The shares, suspended for the complicated revamp, returned ot 8.5p against a 9p suspension, with the nil-paid rights at 5p and the warrants

TAKING STOCK

IES, due to arrive on AIM next month, continues to make remarkable beadway on Ofex, the fringe market run by the market maker JP Jenkins, with the shares nf the security systems group gaining 40p to a 450p peak. IES made profits nf £616,000 last year, ap from

Prices are in sterling except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 20 per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The price/earnings (P/E) ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, excluding exceptional items. Other details: xr Ex rights x Ex-dividend a Ex-all u Unlisted Securities Market a Suspended pp Partly Paid per Nil Paid Shares. BANKS, MERCHANT THE INDEPENDENT INDEX The index allows you to necess real-time share prices by phone from Seaq. Simply dial 1891 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed next to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial 0891 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below. ENGINEERING VEHICLES Electricity Shares High Street Banks Anyone with a tone-dial telephone can use this service. For a detailed description of The Independent Index, including its portfolio facility, phone 0891 123 333, For assistance, call our helpline 071 873 4375 (9.30am - 5.30pm). OIL EXPLORATION MARKET LEADERS: TOP 20 VOLUMES a7 5187 DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS 10,000 Smith & Nepher 9,800 Linyth TSB 9,100 Vocations EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES INVESTMENT COMPANIES 12,000 South Water Sect. FT-SE 100 INDEX HOUR BY HOUR 14.00 3713.B down 6.8 12.00 3711.2 down 9.4 BREWERIES OTHER FINANCIAL "I like the way they're TELECOMMUNICATIONS open 24 The state of the s | No. | No.

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Briti

Britons upbeat Down Under

Tennis

ROB DORSEIT

Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski both caused upsets yesterday as they advanced to the second round of the Peters International tournament in Sydney, a warmup for the Australian Open which starts on Monday. Only two seeded players now remain in the men's draw.

Henman's unexpectedly easy 6-4, 6-2 victory over Mark Philippoussis, ranked 39th in the world, was the more noteworthy of the two British successes, especially since his teenage opponent has been widely acclaimed as the best prospect for Australian tennis since Pat Cash. Henman, whose world ranking of 95 means that he had to play through the qualifying tournament in Sydney, was understandably upbeat after his

I don't know if I outsmarted him, but his game can sometimes become a little one-dimensional." Henman said of Philippoussis. I think that was really the first time I fered," Henman said. "We've the top seed and three-times played as well as I can play." relied only on Jeremy Bates, but champion, Monica Seles.

Henman believed that Philippoussis, whose game has been perhaps unfairly criticised for being based solely on power, may have felt the pressure of Australian expectation.

Meanwhile the Montreal-

born Rusedski, currently ranked 38th in the world, won a heavyhitting first-round match in two tie-break sets against the No 2 seed, Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands. The Dutchman, ranked No 11 in the world, was less consistent than the Briton, and although he recovered Rusedski's break of serve for 3-1 in the seventh game of the first set, he played a disastrous tie-break to fall to an unrecoverable 6-0 deficit, and finally lost the match 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (8-6). The bottom line is that I gave him [Rusedski] too many free points, and it's tough to win

a match like that," Krajicek said. These two victories provide optimism about the season to come for British tennis, and more immediately about the the Australian Open, the first last 10 or 15 years we have suf-

with Greg and I playing better, hopefully we can put British tenhis back on the map."

Marc Rosset withdrew with a hroken finger, having punched an advertising hoarding in last weekend's Hopman Cup final, but the top seed. Goran ivanisevic, went through with a comfortable 6-3, 6-3 win over Germany's David Prinosil. The sixth seed Jan Siemerink and the seventh seed Alberto Costa were both beaten; by Sebastian Lareau, of Canada, and Mark Woodforde, of Australia, respectively. The other two seeds, Arnaud Boetsch of France and the Chilean Marceto Rios, tost on Monday.

eighth seed, Naoko Sawamatsu of Japan, who reached the quarter-finals of last year's Australian Open, held off four match points to overcome Switzerland's Martina Hingis 6-4, 2-6, 7-5, while the Belgian Dominique Monami went through 7-6, 6-3 over a qualifier, Veronika Martinek of Ger-Grand Slam of the year. "In the many. Her reward is a second-round match against

In the women's event, the



Hot streak: Tim Henman breezes to victory over Mark Philippoussis yesterday

Senor El Betrutti calls for a

large portion of objectivity

Australia fall to Sri Lanka

Cricket

Sri Lanka revived their hopes of reaching the World Series final with a three-wicket victory

over Australia yesterday.
The hard-hitting wicket-keeper Romesh Kaluwitharana justified his promotion to opener with a scintillating 77 from 79 balls to ease Sri Lanka to a vital win with 15 balls to spare.

In reply to Australia's 213 for 5 from 50 overs, Sri Lanka scored 214 for 7 in 47.3 overs to the dismay of a crowd of 60,000 at the MCG. Roshan Mahanama guided his side to the verge of victory with a patient 51.

Earlier, Ricky Ponting and Michael Bevan added 159 runs for a record fifth-wicket partnership in the history of limitedovers cricket. Ponting made 123 from 142 halls before being run out on the final ball.

Australia still lead the triangular competition with eight points from six games, two clear of West Indies, who have played one game more. Sri Lanka prop up the table with four points from five games but can still qualify for the best-ofthree finals later this month.
WORLD SERIES CUP (Melbourne): Ausralia
213 for 5 (50 owers; R Ponting 123, M Bevon
65no). Sri Lanks 214 for 7 (47.3 overs; R
Keluwiterana 77, R Mehamana 51). Sri Lanke won by three wickets.

Man figures high in all-time list

Racing

FRET P.

BELL FALLYES

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JOHN COBB

If ever a horse did not need the help of the handicapper to be conferred with greamess then it is One Man after chewing up the reputations of nearly all his serious rivals to the title of best chaser in Britain in Saturday's King George VI Chase. Nevertheless, the British Horseracing Board's handicapper, Christopher Mordaunt, has officially confirmed what every follower of racing had assumed since Saturday by placing One

Man at the head of his ratings. The grey, successful in 10 of

KELSO

1.45 Eurotwist

2.15 Super Sandy

SIS RACAGE

RESULTS LEICESTER
12.45; 1. PIDEFENCE (W. Marston) 9-2;
2. Around The Galo 5-2; 3. Forest Mill 141.16; ras., evers fax Supriers Genotift (rail)
6, des. (Mis.) Primen, Upper Lamboum), Total
56.90; £2.40, £2.60, £2.50, Dual Forecast
63.10. CSF, £17.15. Troy; £2.50,
1.15; 1. TONYS GET U Obtome) 13-8 fay;
Bauence ## 25-1; 3. Suprimitation Star 33.

1.15: 1. TONNS GET U OBOOMS 13-8 by; 2. Baroncell 25-1; 3. Sommarine Stay 33-1. 18 ran. 6, 5. (M Pipe, Wellington). Toke: 22.70; 21.70, 66.40, 68.40, DF: 648.00. CSF: 645.44. True not won (pool of 6285.36 to 4.00 race at Wolverhampton today). 1.45: 1. DISTANT HOME (S Currary 20-12. Kindakoola 25-1; 3. Howthorne Glen 5-1; It by. 4. Pridewood Picker 11-2, 20 ran. 5-1; It by. Antartictem, 9, 13. (A Jones, Fastbool. Totay 62.00; 63.10, 613.50.

Eastbury), Tota: £20.40; £3.10, £13.50, £1.10, £2.00. DF: £120.50. CSF: £425.39. Traces £2.467.70. Non Runners; Desert President & Refig.

2.15: 1. MASTER ORCHESTRA U F Triley! 9-4 fav; 2. Glenfirm Princess 10-1; 3. Garrison Commander 4-1. 13 rm. sta-hd.

Sarrison Commencer 4-1. 13 Fm. 187-10, 2. (Mass H Kinght, Wantage): Total 22.60; £1.50, £1.40, £2.50, DF; £18.20, CSF; £25.43, Tricest: £83.38, Tric: £56.50, NRs: Artrak & Minty's Folly, 2.45: 1. ARCITIC KINSMAN (C Lewellyn)

7-2; 2. Collisco Bay 10-11 far, 3. Southway-ton 14-1, 14 ram, 3, 25. (N Twiston-Davies, Chefronham), Tota: £5.30; £1.20, £1.60, £1.80. DF: £6.10. CSP: £6.81. Trio: £15.90. NR: Super Com.
3.15: 1. COOL CLOWN (D Bridgwater) 51; 2. Storm Drum 12-1; 3. Stace Card 101. 20 ran. 13-4 lav WW Fby (fell), 8, sm-hz.

(M Pope, Welangson), Tobe: 27-10, £3.60, £2.80. DF: £40.20, CSF: £66.75. Trio: 13.00, 2.00,

Gunner 14-1, 15 ran, 13, 20, (C. Lames, New Luy), Totas £4-90; £2-00, £2-10, £5-70, DF-£11, 70, CSF, £20,43, Thosast £193,16, Tho: £58,20, NRs: Chill Wind & Madaim Ross.

Placepot: £91,60. Quadpot: £37,00. Place 6: £96.46. Place 5: £33,30. INGFIELD

1.30: 1 HAPPY PARTNER (M Tethus) 11-8 tav, 2. Copper Bright 7-2; 3. Bouton of Or 3-1. 6 ran, 14-, nt. (C Murrey, Newmarks). Totac F2.30: £1.20, £2.30. DP: £4.50. CSP:

£6.92.
2.00: 1. URITRA BARLEY (M Baird) 10-11
fav. 2. Rowdandsons Charse 4-1; 3. Marino Street 5-1. 7 ran. 14, 6. (P Haston, Mc-dieham). Tota: £1,80; £2,40, £1,70. DF: £3,10. CSF: £5,46. NR: Dornettes.
2.30: 1. ROBELLION (R Cootranal 11-4 fav; 2. Baiters; Deughber 8-1; 3. Personamia 6-1, 12 san. 12, 4. (D Arburhot, Compon). Tota: £3,10; £2,00, £1,90, £1,70. DF: £9,70. CSF: £26.01. Tricast: £117.14. Tric: £104.50.

£104.50.

3.00: 1. SORISKY (J Qurry) 20-1; 2. Mil-tak 13-2; 3. Douglam 8-1. 14 san. 11-4 tav kenyatis. 14. 19. (B Gubby, Begsnon). Tobe: £18.90; £4.10, £2.90, £7.00. DF: £27.10. CSF: £148.84. Tricast: £1,051.15. NR: Car-rolls Marc. Trice £174.50 (pool of £98.32 to

rolls Marc. Inc. 1.174.50 (poor of 286.32 of Wolverhampton 4.00 today).

3.30: 1. GREWIT (Candy Morrs) 12-1; 2. Pagebory 9-2 It fav; 3. Rebo Megic 9-2 it fav. 13 ran. 5, 1. (A Moore, Brighton), Totas (9.80; 22.60, 53.00, 52.10. DF; 548.10. CSF; 567.43. Tricest 5268.83. Tro: 550.70. 4.00: 1. CHINA CASTLE (I Fortuna) 7-4 fav. 2. Represent 7-2: 3. Thermostan Estate fav; 2. Domoor 7-2; 3. The

fay; 2. Domoor 7-2; 3. Thorntown Estate 7-1. 12 nm. ½, 134. (P Hasiam, Middelenm). Yote: £2.00; £1.10, £1.20, £1.50. DP. £6.80. CSF: £8.93. Theast £34.61. That: £6.90. Jackpot: not won (pool of £22.914.02 to Wolverhampton today). Placepot: £107.20. Quadpot: not won cool of £04.20 in Wolverhampton today). (pool of £104.20 to Wolverhampton Piece 6: £37.69. Place 5: £23.41.

Y THE INDEPENDENT Horse Racing

Results 0839 - 111 171 Commentary 0839 - 111 175

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ception being when a well-beaten ninth to Monsieur Le Cure in the 1994 Sun Alliance Chase - has made a steady rise to the top since his first outing over fences at Ayr in November 1993 and on Saturday he

reached the summit. "I have raised One Man to a new mark of 179 from 169, to make him the best chaser in training at the moment," Mor-

daunt said. "Monsieur Le Cure ran his best race for some time [on Saturdayl, if not his best race ever, and he has been raised from 160 to 167. Master Oats definitely

did not run to his best and be

his 11 completed starts—the ex-remains on a mark of 175. He started the season on 180 after his Gold Cup win but I decided to pull that down 51b after his run at Cheostow.

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Rocket Run (Kelso 3.15) NB: Strong Approach (Kelso 2.15)

by the way One Man did it on Saturday. There is no ceiling to his form, not one occasion that you can point to and say, 'He got well stuffed there', to hold the

form down,"

2.45 Desert Brave 3.15 Rocket Run

3.45 Steadfast Elite

HYPERION

GOING; Cheses — Good to Soft (Soft in places); Hardles — Soft (Good to Soft in places).

■ Undulating course, much of two furiongs,

Course is N of rown off B6461, ADMISSION: Club 510; Tauersalls 57 (OAPs 54, accompanied under-16s free). CAR PARK: Free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH BUNNERS: Mrs M Reveley — 41 winners from 129 numers gives a success tatio of 31.3% and a profit to a \$1 level state of \$2.5%; G Richards — 29 winners, 126 numers, 25.8%, +215.9%; P Mouneith — 19 winners, 116 numers, 16.4%, +\$16.78; M Hammond — 16 winners, 84 runners, 17.9%, -\$31.80.

16.4%, +516.7%; M Bammond — 16 winners, 84 funitest, 17.9%, -5-1.80; B LEADING JOCKETS: P Niven — 48 winners, 127 rides, 37.8%, +527.03; B Storey — 26 winners, 150 rides, 16.7%, -546.64; A Dobbia — 23 winners, 107 rides, 21.5%, +538.11; M Moloney — 14 winners, 63 rides, 22.3%, -55.30.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DESTANCE KUNNERS: Quiet Mistress (1.15) has been sent 175 miles by WA Bethell

1.15 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICE CHASE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS D) £5,500 added 3m 1f Penalty Value £3,984

FORM GUIDE

Many Reveley had Seven Towers in the handicap (3.15) on this card but she relies upon Son Of his for that. It is easy to knock Seven Towers after a dubout sear to his crasing career and a stone penalty will put off many. But he is unbeaten at the game and will relief the stammer text. Strugge he may have done at Newcasde but he sail managed to overhead the useful McGregor The Third and his style was similar at Chellenham where he come from way back to beat Mobile Messenger, improvement in the fancing deparament is deaded but his stoying ability will always make him hand to beat. But the weight is needed but his stoying ability will always make him hand to beat. But the weight is needed but his stoying ability will always make him hand to beat. But the weight is concession does give INY MOXISS the chance of beating Saven Towers and he at last has his ground. All his five hundle wins were gained over a timp with dig in the ground yet his been on a faster surface. Lack of recent action may find out Severy, though this winning hundler has always looked the type to do better at the chasing game. Dordin Castle make his challing debut in a hendical at Hecham seven weeks ago when he that the north when disputing the lead. Another whining staying hundler, Dorlin Castle will come into his own over this stamne test in the much. There must be coulds about selling than by House and showed he stays when beaten a length by What A Question in a rough race at Airrore lest April, However, he is in the same boat as Savoy being without a recent run. Selections My HOUSE

1.45 BROUGHTON BEST CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,850

added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £2,227

EEPSNB COLD (44) (Gipt) / Buckly 7 10 5 _______ A Thombon ______ And declared ______ won Towns, 3-1 Seway, 9-2 by House, 6-1 Durin Castle, 7-1 Major Ball, 14-1 Qui-

1017.22 PRINTS (888) (Nobert Ogien) & Richards 9 1.0 10.
2131.2-2 QUIET MISTRESS (43) IF A Bernell W Bothell 8 1.0 5...
84.0PG 5 SAGNARO BELLE (23) (A M Const) A Const 10 10 5...
40-PG33 SEERINB COLD (449) (Silv) J Bazday 7 1.0 5...

Timeform, their senior jumps handicapper Simon Rowlands, was equally impressed, "I have rated One Man at 183 with a "I was extremely impressed small "p" denoting the prohability of further improvement," he said. "He beat what we all know was a strong field with great authority. A couple of horses ran below form and

> D'Alene and Young Hustler ran well enough to suggest that the form is solid enough. "That performance puts him up with the best borses of recent

Coulton almost certainly didn't

stay, but borses like Val

years. Since the first Chasers

And Hurdlers annual was pub-

november: Super sandy gets only a pound pull but this is more her ground and she will also get stronger handing tuday. Britan' a Delight is not totally out of it. He's a bit of a guess on the ground but it was heavy when he stayed on 20 lengths behind Super Sandy lest March and this 23th pull offers him some hope. Flash Of Realim, beaten 13 lengths by Stong Approach in November, gets a 10th pull but he has done the visit majority of its winning on a laster surface. Somete Mo has also shown a preference for faster ground but he beat Flash Of Realim 10 lengths at Sedgefield last time and is in a weekish affair off the 6th higher mark. Selections 100CAL FIELD

2.45 OOH AAH DAILY STAR 'NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 110yds Penaity Value £2,918

3.15 PAT DE CLERMONT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) (Scott-Briggs Memorial Brophy) £5,000 3m 1f Penalty Value £3,501

= 12 occurse =

EETING: 7-2 Emergid Storm, 4-1 Rocket Ren, 5-1 Soo Of Iris, 6-1 Stop The Walter, 6-1 Lupy Minstrel, Ninfa, 10-1 Abstractomby Chief, 14-1 others
FORM SUBJE

RECOLEAN is the epitome of consistency if you ignore his tilt over the National Tences at Author in November when he was taked off from the 10th. The course suts him alignit (two previous course and distance wins) and he is back on track judged on his Newcastie

tion previous course and distance wins! and he is dack on track judged on his Newcastie second to Fheieigh Bullds last week. It's possible that this second run in five days comes piently quick enough after a near two-morth lay-off previously, but he has been so consistent that he is entitled to the benefit of the doubt. He just about holds Barney Rubble on Carlisie (3m, soft) form last lanuary and though he lacked the peas over a shorter trap to beet Emersial Starran here lest October, he is 6th better in for 14 lengths Reported Ram, a profife winning point-to-pointer, is familiar with these tences after two previous foreys here and a potentially well handicapped despite his pre-Christmas wins here and at Musseburgh. He is very much the one to be learned even though Minds is a disease how these technical transfer tendence rules at

right and of museum purels of the drop back in trip after tacking four miles-plus at Bengar and Son Of lists, decent when he stays on his feet, will be better for his reappearance at Newcastle. Selection: KILCOLGAN

3.45 MIDDLEMAS TAYERN CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,200 2m 2f Penalty Value £2,402

42216' CALLERMOY (695) (CO) (Bors of the late Mr R R Lants) O Lamb 6 11 7 A Manners (5)

023612- COOL LANE (263) (C) U M Duny M: J Dun 9 11 13 332243 PRECIPICE KUN (28) (Cumbran Racing Cub) G Richards 11 11 9

00483-3 SCARBA (20) (Breen Gordon) J M Jefferson 8 10 5 ...

12-1 Callernoy, 16-1 others

26-3551 MARCO MAGRIPICO (USA) (25) IS Bruce) 7 Dyer 6 100 ...

2 DARK BUDY (87) B J Crosper B Macragen 7 115
3 OOCO DESCRIT BRANE (27) (indicided lackson Blootstock Mis S Smith 6
4 OOCO F RINK THE (23) (limited lackson Blootstock Mis S Smith 6
5 OS6 HENRY HOOLEI (5) (Matchesmi) P Montech 7 11 5
6 HENRY HOOLEI (5) (Matchesmi) P Montech 7 11 5
7 HOWNOULDONES (Mis B Hendley) M Branes 6 11 5
8 OO-4 JUNITY GENERAL (C2) E Wassign C Parley 5 11 5
9 O HEMMARE BYMER (24) (Brand Colonia R Colone 6 11 5
10 OG-0 SINGING SAND (5) Charden Andrew P Montech 6 11 5
11 OS SINGING SAND (5) Charden Andrew P Montech 6 11 5
12 SOLSBERTH (Mis Cyrl Macradien) Backbay 5 11 5
13 OOC TURKISH TOWER (46) (W J Peasotou 6 Rachards 5 11 5
14 O TURKISH TOWER (250) (R R S Nazor) J Habitane 7 11 5
15 FORTALW U K M Oliver 7 11 0
16 0-40400 MEADOWLECK (49) (W G Young W Young 7 11 0
17 POLLY STAR (W Fisher) L Lungs 8 11 0
18 4UAPO SIE LUNT (224) (W R Dobra) J Creation 8 11 0

18 4UU4PO- SKI LADY (224) (J W Robson) J Creation 8 11 0

_AS Soci

Mordaunt's counterpart at lished in 1976, only Desert Or-

chid and Burrough Hill Lad have had higher annual ratings." Richard Dunwoody, whose confidence in One Man allowed him a long lonk back as his rivals struggled on the home turn, has been snapped up by Simon Dow to try and secure another big prize on Chief's Song in the Ladbroke Hurdle at

Leopardstown on Saturday. The Ulsterman had several offers in the race, but yesterday

been in single figures. But the told Dow he was available. trainer's name is Mrs S Nock. 'You wouldn't want anyone else if you could pick them," the Epsom trainer said. Today's Plumpton card is cancelled due to waterlogging. FORM GUIDE A few its and buts here so JUDICIAL FIELD gets the vote with his hurdes pace still in endence. Senowiched between fest-ground wing at Nottingsom and Catterick he managed to keep takes on the death Class of Ninetyono over time made as at Lation. He has the starma to with this and his useds winning hurdes form in freland was shown in the mud. Strong Approach heads the weights after two wins at Carisia in November but could just be beautable on this softer ground. Super Sandy is the one for the form reversal. This mare loves the mud, improved to notice to hat-mich last backend (all at Hechem) and will be stronger today after her needed run behind Strong Approach in November. Super Sandy gets only a pound pull but this is more her ground and she will have set stronger broaders to the first is perfect is not intaily out of it. He's a but to fin

... B Harding (3

.....M Hewton (5)

It was enough to induce stupor m the betting ring at Ascot on 16 December and Senor El Betrutti, the rank outsider in a field of eight, made all the running to beat the Martin Pipetrained 7-2 joint-favourite Cha-Henger Du Luc by six lengths.

shoulder for a little-known yard,

stir in a dash of male chau-

vimism, and we have the hasic follow fashion ingredient for Senor El Betrutti's recent 66-1 win at Ascot. Had the names of "M Pipe" by, enabling punters to display or "D Nicholson" appeared alongside the grey's place on the

overdue objectivity towards the skills of Susan Nock. "The odds were ridiculous", racecard, the odds could have is her reaction. "The win wasn't

a cautionary tale

for punters who

out of the blue. People had only to look at his form - a year earlier be had won by eight lengths over burdles at Windsor." A number of race-watchers remarked bow impressive be

was in that well-contested race. At that time, though, Senor El Tomorrow the novice steeple-chaser is due to run at Wether-Brooks. Since then, the grey has

Muck not lucky for Jodami

Boil up a fixation with higname trainers, add some cold-

fering a minor setback.

ter Beaumont, Jodami's trainer, said. "In the light of what's happened since that was a great performance, but be's got a hit of muck in his throat and he's

just isn't quite right at present."
The 1993 Gold Cup winner

Betrutti was being trained at the

Jodami, one of the few borses Man at Avr in November." Peother than One Man whose reputation was enhanced by Saturday's King George VI Chase success by the grey, will miss the Monkton Handicap Chase at Wetherby tomorrow after suf-

gotten that Jodami was giving a narrow and unimpressive vic-

16th when he was beaten by One tory at Kelso in November.

joined the Nock's family operation just outside Stow-on-the-Wold.

The horse has been owned thoughout by Susan's husband, Gerard. Last year, after considerable success with point-to-pointers, his wife turned to a bigger league, so the grey "came home", along with three others, including Cool Runner, for-merly trained by David Nicholson. Cool Runner won for his new yard at Worcester in No-

vember - at odds of 16-1. Senor El Betrutti disappointed in several races prior to his Ascot win, but that was because of soft going he hates. His appearance tomorrow in the £20,000 Towton Novice Chase at Wetherby depends on the ground there, yesterday de-scribed as good to soft. "I'll be talking to Graham

Bradley [the borse's regular partner) before deciding to run or not." Susan Nock said yesterday. "It would he his first time over three miles, be's got an 8lb penalty and he's best on good ground, so we have to think about it."

The Nocks had £10 each-way at 66-1 at Ascot. Wherever "People seem to have for- has been on the sidelines since Senor El Betrutti runs next, such misguided generosity is unlikely to be found again.

WOLVERHAMPTON

1.00 Sarasi 1.30 Note Of Caution (ab) 2.00 Brookhead Lady 2.30 Lear Dancer 3.00 SECOND COLOURS (nap) 3.30 Eastleigh 4.00 Featherstone

GOING: Standard STALLS: 71 & 1m6/ - outside; rest - inside. GOUNG! SERGERT STALLS: It is Into - outside; rest - inside.

RRAW ADVANTAGE: libth from 6 to 1m 4f.

Fibresand, left-hand, oval course.

Course is north of Lown on A449. ADMISSION: Entrance £6; additional £10 for entrance to Viewing Restaurant; additional £15.90 for meal. CAR PARK: free.

SIS All races

LINESERED FIRST TIMES Sir Tanker (1.00); Bex Hill (visored, 1.00); Hand Of Suraw (visored, 2.30).
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS. Cheeky Chappy (4.00).
Lear Dancer (2.30) & Maple Bay (1.00) all won here on Wetnesday; Rambo Waltzer (2.00) won at Southwell on Pridgy: Warkurst (1.00) won at Southwell on Monday.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNESS: Second Colours (2.00) has been sent 170 miles by Mrs M Reveley from Lingdale, Cleveland; High Premium (3.00) & Mine Tangthar (3.30) sent 146 miles by 8 Falsey from Brawby, North Yorkside.

1.00 BASIL SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) (DIV

ם ן		i) £4,000 added 1m 100yds
1 1	001061-	CERDAN WAY (29) (C) (D) N Lamader 8 9 5
ł		T G McLandalla
1 2	33042-1	MAPLE BAY (7) (C) A Balley 7 8 5
1 3	40601-3	SARASI (5) (C) (BP) M Camacho 495 Champoci
(4		DANNESTAR (32) (13) P Berns 490S Sendors :
] 5	604033-	DESERT PARDER (29) (C) (D) D Chapman 59 0A Collusio
8		DREAM CARRIER (29) (C) R Pescock 8 9 0 _P McCake (3)
JТ	020400-	LIVE PROJECT (25) M. Johnston 4 9 0 J Weaver
8	0,000000	MORD LYS (44) 8 Liewellyn 5 9 0
9	200444	MORTHERN GREY (22) / Berry 4 9 0P Feasty (5)
10		SHEROOT (72) O Motion 4 9 0 Quina :
111	0403-41	WARHARST (2) (D): O Aucholis 5 9 0
12	600000-0	BEX HBLL (5) (C) O Haydin Jones 4 88
[13	036000-	SCOTOSH PARK (184) (CD) J L Harris 7 8 9 D Whiche (3) :

BETTING: 9-2 Magio Ray, 5-1 Certain Way, Desert Invader, 6-1 Warturst, Sereni, 7-1 Live Project, 6-1 Dream Cerrier, 10-1 others 130 JAMUNA MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,450 added 370 7f

BLUNTSWOOD HALL R Hourshead 9 0 8 COACHELIA Ser Math Prescut 89 ______ Graction 37
7 CONSTIDENT S Woods 89 ______ W Woods 11
8 Hackland FRINN S Michatron 89 ______ Flynch (7)
9 5- KONSDOM PRINCESS (47) M Camacho 89 ____ I Charmock 1
10 3 MOTE OF CHIMON (23) Loss Humangson 89 ___ I Wasney 1
11 0- ROWANE (44) A Bailey 89 ______ D Whight (33) 1
11 0- ROWANE (44) A Bailey 89 ______ D Whight (33) 1
11 declared =

BETTINGS 8-4 Note Of Camifon, 5-2 Direct, 7-2 Comphelle, 7-1 Cointees or, 12-1 Sheptenson Hall, Highland Fewn, 25-1 Shipman, 30-1 others

2.00 BAILEY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £4,400 added 6f

202146- MASKW 90Y (25) (CD) P Murphy 7 8 12 ____ 5 Dront 115550- SENSE OF PRIORITY (152) (CD) 0 Microts 7 9 10 ___

- 13 declared -BETTING: 11-4 Red Acquise, 2-1 Str Tasker, 7-2 Rest Kept Secret, 4-1 Jigawe Roy, 6-1 Sense Of Priority, 10-1 Promice Pullifled, 25-1 others

2.30 JERICHO HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,450 added 1m 6f 166yds

3.00 JAFFA HANDICAP (CLASS C) added 1m 1f 79yds	£8,200
1 143501/- MAUGE A NOTE (489) P Evens 5 10 0	
060020- SOUTH EASTERN FRED (27) (CD) H Collegedge 5	913
100012- SWEET SUPPOSIN (26) (CD) C Daver 5 9 11 .T A	shipy (7) 6
64034-1 PARMED WALTZER (5) 0 Nichols 4 9 9 (5er)	
Negr. (Grames 11
000345- NOMBEYEV DANCER (183) [C] A Balley 4 9 8	
——————————————————————————————————————	10 (3) 10
20/4000- LEDF THE LUCKY (203) (D) Miss S Half 7 9 7	Stack (3) 4
111632- SECOND COLOURS (28) (C) (D) Mrs M Reveley 8	
R(
8 040005- BERNARIO SEMEN (27) C Britton 4 9 4	
344111- EASY CHOICE (27) P Machel 492	
ID 542621- NGGEL'S LAD (203) (D) P Hostom 4 9 D	
11 31643-2 HIGH PREMIUM (7) R Fainey 8 8 13	
12 405006- KUNTWYN (46) (CD) C Elsey 6 8 11	
13 20000-5 ARABOYMILL (5) (0) R Simpleon 5 7 11	Bardwell 8
- 13 declared -	
SEITING: 4-1 Niger's Lad, 9-2 Easy Choice, 7-1 High Premio	M. KINDO
Natizer, 8-1 Second Colours, 9-2 Make A Note, 10-1 others	

3.30 BASIL SELLING STAKES (CLASS E) (DIV I) £4,000 added 1m 1.00yds
1 OLODIO DANCE ON SUPERICE (187) (D) J Pentock 8 9 0 . C Ruther 7
2 05046-0 EASTLEIGH (5) (D) R Hollinshead 7 9 0
3 40500-3 FREZ (5) R Simpson 6 9 0
4 643000 HAND OF STRUM (98) P Murphy 4 9 0 6 Deserte (3) 2
5 621051. LITTLE SCARLETT (29) (CD) P Makin 480
6 40040-3 NO SUBMISSION (5) (CD) 0 Chapmen 10 9 0
P Feesery (6) 11
7 COCKSO PEACEPUL REPLY (44) F Les 6 9 0
8 560405- PIGALLE WONDER (29) (D) N Belbage 8 9 D
9 235340 TIMELY EXAMPLE (826) 8 Combride 580 N Adams 12
10 130,000 VOCAL COMMUND (SS) (C) W Hage 4 9 0 Date Officen 10
11 05/0006- DANCE OF JOY (170) I Car 489S Morris 13
12 344330 MBS ZANZIBAR (196) (D) R Fahey 489
13 150000 OFF THE AIR (92) (CD) 8 Unvelop 58 9
= 13 declared =
BETTRIE: 5-2 No Submission, 9-2 Little Searlett, 5-1 Seatleigh, Miss Zanz-
Bar, 7-1 Facz, 8-1 Hend of Show, 12-1 Timely Example, 18-1 others

4.00 LADBROKE SERIES HANDICAP (QUALI-FIER) (CLASS D) £5,450 added 5f

36846-0 MARGARETROSE ANNA (7) E Algori 4 9 1 12 53000-3 THE REAL WHIZZBANG (7) (CD) P Felgins 5 7 13...

= 12 declared Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handicup weight: Branston Kristy 7st 7to.
BETTING: 9-2 Shedow Jury, 6-1 Cheefty Chappy, 11-2 Claudwell Hell, 6-1 Fastherstone Lane, 13-2 Anytime Baby, 7-1 Land Sky, Balen From 1 The Real Whitzmang 10-1 others

13 00/0530- BRANSTON KRISTY (215) C Smith 4 7 10 M Baird (6) 8

222(015 ARABON AYR (AVI) (ED) Meion Members Loudyers Cator P Monteut 8 12 0 __A Dobbin 1150-52 EUROTHOST (A4) (D) (BF) Reproper Gomessili S Retbeud 7 12 0 ____S Pomits (7) 2-080-00 URBAN DANCING (USI) (ST) (D) Remain McCulloch) 8 Elison 7 12 0 ____S finding (3) 00203-0 MARRICO CAND (R) (Ms. M A Kerdinii Mirs M Mendelli 8 11 10 ______Mirs M Meadell OUZUS-4 IMPROCES CAMEN (AND NORS MA A NOTION) MES MA PERSONS 3.1.3 10 MASS TO 60 RICANA (63) ANT Kempi W Remp 4 10 3 BETTENG: 9-4 Eurobeist, 7-2 Aragon Ayr, 4-1 Mr Devious, 5-1 Micky's Feelings, 10-1 Kinstyabosch,

Following a pleasing fifth to Dancing Dove here, Europeak was ourstayed by Jymjam Johnny on a return visit 18 days letter when heavily backed. He would have won the race

Johnny on a return visit 18 days later when heavily backed. He would have won the race at this shorter distance and must take all the beating today if running landly for his inexperienced rider. Tony Dobbin has the leg up on ARAGON ANE and this much lover is taken to notich his third with on the course. He lacks a run this term but showed plenty of heart to see off Rebel King and Master Of Troy at Air a year ago. The others shouldn't really get into the race, shough there is just the chance Violage Taittinger (trained by Michael Bell on the Flat) might improve on his two hundle starts against decent notices. Mr Devious, winter of two strait races on fast ground for Philip Hobbs, was bought cheapy at the Donoster Dotober Sales and showed nothing at Haydock three weeks are. Selections ARAGON AIR.

WILFRED & PATRICIA CRAWFORD MEMORIAL HANDICAP 2.15 CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 2m 1f Penalty Value £3,371 045-112 STRONG APPROACH (25) (BF) (Mrs R C Carr) J Chanton 11 11 10 ... 3)44-01. SONSIE MO (85) (CD) (Timody Hazde) Mis S Backume 11.119 5F111-5 SUPER SHADY (48) (Mis F7 Hallow) F Watco 9 11.9 152312 PLASH OF REALIN (FR) (39) (Man IT Makka) P Morzech 10.119 A DobbioW Duyte - 6 decisred -SETUNG: 2-1 Judicial Fedd, 5-2 Strong Approach, 9-2 Sousie Mo, 5-1 Flesh Of Rushin, 8-1 Super

This might not be Coqui Lane's day with the distance probably too short, but keep an eye on this nine year-old who is beginning to look well handicapped. Preclipice Rum is not at that well weighted compared to his chase rating and Search seams difficult to with after a brace of wins in the 1993-94 campalgn. We may not have seen the best of Chiumany's Sagle when he was pulsed up behind bitanco Magnifico at Carlisia 25 days ago, but both of those, plus Steadfast Elite, look vulnerable on the stower surface. It really is wide open and CALLISTANCY, running for the first time in an age, is worth a small interest. His form two seasons ago included a second of 13 to Surrey Dancer here as well as a course win from 18 nowce rivals. Selection: CALLERNOY

Minimum neight: 10st. True handkap weight: Marto Magnifop 9st 13to. BETTIND: 11-4 Marco Magniffen, 3-1 Procipice Run, 7-2 Scarba, 9-3 Stoattast Effe, 8-1 Coupl Later

FORM GUIDE

sport

Jones only has eyes for Benn

Ken Jones on the IBF super-featherweight champion, considered by many to be the best fighter pound-for-pound in the world, who is considering a career in basketball

The slungball swings before a boxer in erratic arcs, simulating a moving target. On television last week, timed electronically. Roy Jones Jnr, who holds the International Boxing Federation super-middleweight championship, connected at the astonishing

rate of six punches per second.

Blurring coming from everywhere hand speed is just one of the reasons why Jones is considered to be the most accomplished fighter, poundfor-pound, at present working in the ring. There is his fancy footwork too. And blazing self-confidence. "I didn't set out to be the best in my time but of all time." he said.

Trouble is that Jones is running our cal supremacy. Bored.

frustrated by the polities that would re- 'Since I was 15 quire the signing away of prized promotion- my daddy would al independence to gain a unifying contest try to pick a fight against the World Boxing Council title- every day. I used holder. Nigel Benn. he claims to be serious to think I'd go to about attempting a career in basketball. jail for killing him' If his life depend-

not make it in the NBA but next month he plans on trying out with the London Towers. A gimmick maybe, but Benn apart there is a long to the same and the sam but Benn apart there isn't an opponent who excites Jones's interest.

At Madison Square Garden on Friday night a non-title bout against Merqui Sosa of the Dominican Re-public will add a further \$2.5m (£1.6m) to wealth evident from the two estates Jones maintains in his home town of Pensacola, Florida. where he collects vintage cars and breeds fighting cocks for Mexican arenas, still spending six days a week

in a custom built gymnasium. Selected for his durable chin. Sosa is not given a chance. For Jones it is just another pay day, doubtless extending his record to 31 straight wins. When the former manager and trainer Gil Clancey, new a fight com- a plea from his mother he remained

mentator, first saw Jones he was reminded of the young Muhammad Ali.
"So much natural talent that he could break the rules. Like Ali used to lean back from punches rather than slip under them. Which is a no-no. This kid lunged past the other guy's punches to throw his own... and got away with it. He was so natural, as good as I'd seen in years with the polential to be the most exciting fighter around. What you're seeing now is the fulfilment of all that promise. Angelo Dundee, who trained Ali,

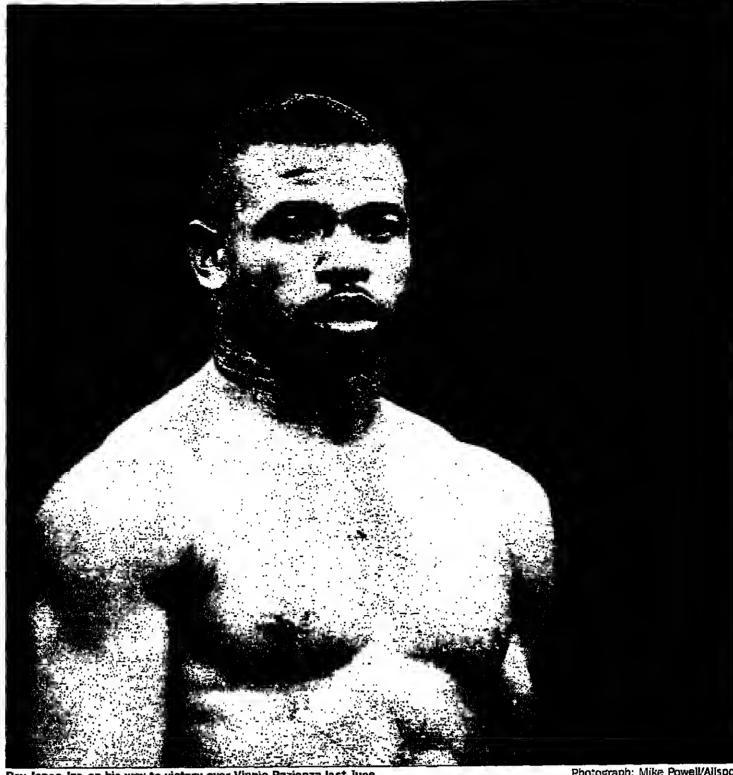
formed a similar impression. "I liked the kid's quickness - the way he jumped on guys when he got t'em hurt. he said. "There was all sc: s of of opportunities to establish histori- stuff he hadn't used yet but you knew

that it would come out when he needed it." All this at a time when the difficult relationship between Jones and his domineering father and manager, Roy Snr, was at breaking point. "From the time I was 15 my daddy would fry to pick a fight every day," Jones said re-

nothing about what I thought with a crowd of people around. I was scared to have a girlfriend because he'd dog me out in from of them. I began carrying a knife in case he went for me. A huge pocket knife. I used to think I'd go to jail for killing him. Thank God it didn't happen. I was very afraid but I was ready to defend myself."

They were still together when Jones was robbed of ngold medal in the 1988 Seoul Olympics by a decision so blatantly corrupt it was recommended that the judges who awarded the fight to Si-Hun Park of South Korea be suspended for life.

Immediately there were opportunities for Jones to break free, but on



Roy Jones Jnr, on his way to victory over Vinnie Pazienza last June

under his father's influence through 18 professional contests, "He's got you this far. Carol Jones said. Give him another chance.

When Jones defeated Bernard Hopkins for the IBF middleweight championship on 22 May 1993, his father was no longer in the corner. They had split permanently, Jones by then taking business advice from two wealthy Florida lawyers, the brothers Fred and Stanley Levin who had invested in his future. Recognising that independence

was the most important thing implanted in Jones by his father, the Levins came in on the strict understanding that no promoter would be given options of future contests. Thus the impasse that exists between Jones and Benn, who is under contract to Frank Warren and Don King. "I'll fight Benn any time." Jones said last year when meeting with British boxing writers in Atlantic City shortly before Lennox Lewis defeated Tommy Morrison. "Tell me where he is and I'll go and see him. If Benn

wants this right then he's got to understand that I won't sign away anything to the people who promote

him. It's that simple." Questions about Jones no longer existed after he dismantled James Toney in November 1994 to become the IBF's 12st champion. If weak at the weight. Toney could not cope with the virtuosity Jones brought to the ring and was utterly outclassed. In June of last year. Jones didn't expect anyone to take seriously a contest against the experienced Vinnie Photograph: Mike Powell/Allsport

Pazienza and emphasised the point by systematically dismantling him. So far, 26 of Jones's 30 opponents have failed to last the distance. When in possession of the WBO's version of the super-middleweight title. Chris Eubank wanted no part of him.

A contract with the cable television network, HBO, means Jones, 26, can go on earning between \$4m-\$5m (£25-£3m) annually. If he wants it. If frustration doesn't lead him into shooting for baskets instead of a place in history.

Sunday's match against

Six players are still under in-

tensive treatment, however,

with Adam Fogerty's knee and

Anthony Sullivan's calf the least

referee who has already offici-

ated at two Challenge Cup

finals, takes charge of his first

Regal Trophy final at Hudder-sfield on Saturday.

Phil Sigsworth, the new Hull

coach, is to try to persuade Russ Walker, who was in charge on

tralian's arrival last weekend, to

Sigsworth is resigned to losing Richard Gay, his full-back, to Castleford, but he is

confident that Steve McNa-

mara, the club captain who

stay on as his assistant.

Russell Smith, the Castleford

likely to respond in time.

Warrington

Plans set fair for Grand **Mistral**

jole fin

Sailing STUART ALEXANDER

Any doubts that the new Grand Mistral round-the-world race would go ahead this September would go anead this September were shrugged aside in London yesterday by the organiser, Pierre Fehlmann.

The Swiss ocean racer, who has five Whitbreads under his belt, was adamant: "There will be a minimum of nine yachts on the start, more probably 10 to 12," he said.

Fehimann has secured con-siderable financial backing for the race from his long-time sponsors. Philip Morris. He also has the support of the French regional governments of Bouches-du-Rhone and the Côte d' Azure to build the Bruce Farr-designed, water-hallasted 80-footers at a factory in La Ciotal. southern France.

Hull number five is being huilt, and it is claimed that further yachts can be produced at the rate of one every three weeks to be chartered to the competing syndicates.

What has been less clear is exactly who will be campaigning the boats in a race that starts m Marseilles on 21 September, going on to Cape Town, then Sydney for the 1996 Sydney to Hobart (which is incorporated into the race). Auckland, Mar del Plata, Argentina and New York. The fleet then returns across the Atlantic and into the Mediterranean for the finish in Marselle.

Only three yachts have declared backers. They are Fehlmann's own Merit Cup. which will be skippered by the 1993/94 Whitbread winner. Grant Dalton, Finland's Ludde Ingvall in Nicorette, and the French Americas slopper, Marc Pajot, who is due to announce details of his backers in France on Friday. The city of Marseilles is expected to pick up most of

Fehlmann also claims that Tag Heuer will back a Chris Dickson entry and that negotiations are well advanced, but they have been dragging on for some time.

As for the remaining five race spokesman Hans Bernhard says they will come from a list of 36 who have expressed interest, although it is known that many of those cannot proceed. It is thought that arrangements may be made to make the boats available in one form or another just so that contract clauses requiring a minimum fleet of, sav. eight boats can be honoured.

Neither Fehlmann nor Bernhard was willing to discuss any financial implications but Dalton said: "There has been a meeting of everyone involved at which we knew we either had to end up with a race or not. There was a considerable will for the race to succeed and a determination for it to go ahead. Now there is a structure in place that guarantees these

boats will race. Dalton has also been trying to secure enough cash for a 1997/98 Whitbread, but has found the going tough in a New Zealand heavily focused in the short term on Olympic sailmg and, in the longer, more expensive term, the defence of the America's Cup in 2000.

"If I can't put it together in three more months then I may have to abandon." Dalton said. He will also have to give more and more time to preparing his multi-national crew for the start of the Grand Mistral.

has been recently linked with Bradford and Wigan, will be

Football 7.30 unless stated

Stockport v Bradford City . Swindon v Swanten (7.45)

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION Queen of the South v Steni SCOTTISH THURD DIVISION

CM VALIDHALL CONFERENCE SP hallenge Cup second Halfax Town (7.45). UNIBOND LEAGUE President's Cup first round: Afreton v Boston Utd. UniFilia First

ICIS LEAGUE Third Division: Herlow v Win-gate & Finchiey. GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Premier Division: Frome v Taunton. UNIDET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE John O'Here League Cap fourth round; Heistern

LEAGUE OF WALES: Ebbw Vale v Cwmbran; Porthmadog v Holywell (7.45). Portrinadog y Holywell (7.45).

Portrina LEAGUE First Division: Netts
County v Sheffield Wednesday (7.0); Oldham
Athlete v West Bromword Affolio (7.0); Oldham
Athlete v West Bromword Affolio (7.0); Blackturn Rovers v Birmigam Oty (7.0) in Affolia
y York City (7.0); Holdershelf Town v Marsfield Town (7.0); Middlesbrough v Burnley (7.0);
Intel Hartlegool Unit; Port Vele v Preston North
End (7.0); Rotherburn Unit v Hurt City (7.0);
Third Olivision: Bury v Chester City (7.0);
Chesterfield v Shrewsbury Town (7.0); Darlington v Scunthorpe Utd (6.30); Scar-borough v Donoaster Rovers (7.0); Wilgan Ath-letic v Carlisle Utd (7.0).

AVON INSUBANCE COMBINATION First Division: Bristol City v Wimbledon; Crystal Palace v Cherton Athletic (7.0) (at Division Harniet), Postponed: West Ham V Brighton, Second Division: Bath City V Birmingham City (at Keynsham); Carrist City v Bournemouth (2.0); Torquey Und v Cheltenham Town 17.0). FA YOUTH CUP Third round: Sunderland of Manchesser Utd (7.0); lpswich Town v Mid-

Rugby League

7.30 unless stated STONES CENTENARY CHAMPIONSHIP-STONES CENTENARY CHAMPIONSHIP-Workington v Warrington; Leeds v Oldharn. First Distalon: Whitehaven v Wdnas; Wakefield v Sotlay, Second Division: Contale v Barrow (at Carlisle RUFC); Vork v Swinton: Doncaster v Hurslet (Mr. Fasterlanton Rivera); Bramley v

Rugby Union

REPRESENDATIVE MATCH: Royal Navy v Com-bred London Old Boys (7.0) (at Burneby Rosat, Portstrouth: Royal Air Force v Crut Service (2.15) (at RAF Halton). TENNENT'S INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPI. ONSHIP: Scottish Exiles v South of Scotland 15.0) (at Richmond).

ice hockey BRITISH LEAGUE Premier Division: Durham Wespa v Sheffield Steelers 16.301. Newcas-de Warmora v Humberside Hamks, 18.01. Pinst Division: Bracknell Bees v Peterborough Prairies 18.301; Gundford Farnes v Medway Gears

Baskethall

Other sports

Questions of Sport



£40,000 to be won

Today we are giving you another sporting chance to win an instant cash prize of up to £1,000 in our Questions of Sport scratch card game.

As well as the daily instant cash prizes, there is a weekly accumulator prize of £5,000 to be won. In Saturday's paper, and the Independent on Sunday,

there was a Questions Of Sport multi-choice scratch card which contains eight games, so you can you can play daily through to Friday 12 January. This Saturday we will give you another Questions of Sport scratch card.

HOW TO PLAY

Today we are playing the section of the card dated Wednesday 10 January. Below are three sporting questions, each with three possible answers coded as A, B and C. Scratch off your answer to Question Sixteen, either A,B or C in the Q16 column than repeat for Q17 and

Q16 Which struggling First Division football team play home nes at The Hawthorns? A: Derby County West Bromwich Albion Wolverhampton Wanderers

Q17 What is the name of the disc-shaped object struck in ice

A: Puck B: Ball C: Jack

Q18 Which of the following is a nnis troohy? A: The Ryder Cup

C: The Admirals Cup

IMPORTANT

Scratch off ONE letter only for each question. If you reveal three identical cash amounts on any one section on any one day, you win that amount. After you have played the last game on your card, total the cash amounts you have revealed. If your total is £5,000 you win or share the £5,000

HOW TO CLAIM If you have revealed three identical cash amounts of £10 or under, DO NOT PHONE. Take the claim coupon OR a piece of plain paper with your

accumulator prize.

name and address on it PLUS the relevant section of the card to one of the newsagents listed below. For prizes over £10, phone 01254 683666 (Irish Republic 0044 1254 683666) between 10.30am and 4pm Monday to Saturday. Participating newsagents: WH Smith, John Menzies, Forbuoys, Martins/RS McColl.Dillons, Gibbs, Macs, Supercigs, United News Shops, Star News, K Balfour, Eason, GT News, Paperchain - Village Store, Paper

If you have any difficulty redeeming your card and coupon for a prize send both to: Independent Questions Of Sport claims, PO Box 60, Bumlay, **BB10 1SH.**

5

RULES AS PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED

SOME OF OUR WINNERS SO FAR:

Graham Bowen from Caerfyrddin, Dyfed - £1,000 Morten Svendsen from Newcastle-upon-Tyne - £1,000 Theresa Gleadowe from London - £500 Martin Smith

from Lichfield, Staffordshire - £250 Dennis Pounder from Hartlepool, Cleveland - £250 Frederick Herbert from Wembley, Middlesex - £100 **Toby Huristone** from Broomfield, Chelmsford · £50 David Bloor

from Haslington, Crewe - £25

QUESTIONS OF SPORT CLAIM COUPON

Wednesday 10 January 1996 To claim prizes up to £10 DO NOT PHONE

Take this coupon to any of the participating Newsagents listed who will give you your prize instantly.

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To the Newsagent: Please check the card is correct and give the reader the valua of their prize. Send this coupon or details supplied on plain paper together with tha winning card to your head office for TINDEPENDENT full redemption.

Mather told to stay in England player, capped by both Great been passed fit for the final af-

Rugby League

OAVE HADFIELD

The Western Reds, the Australian Super League club, have told Barrie-Jon Mather, the international second row or centre, to stay in England until his contractual dispute with Wigan is sorted out.

deal with the Perth-based club in November after declaring himself a free agent, but has been in Britain for a Christmas

Wigan are disputing Mather's claim that the contract he void and have, via the Rugby League, asked the Super League, they said, "Our client member clubs.

That plea appears to have worked. Brad Mellon, the Reds chief executive, has told Mather to stay put and try to resolve the

1 Bolton v Wimbledon

10 Milwall v Port Vale..... 11 Oldham v Barnsley..... 12 Portsmouth v Grimsby

Britain and England was taking ter recovering from the groin legal advice in London strain that kept him out of vesterda". It is obviously not in the

Super League's interests to have two artiliated clubs on opposite sides of the world at each other's throats, but Mather has already attracted interest from clubs in the rival Aus-Mather signed a three-year tralian Rugby League, who would have no such qualms.

Mather's solicitors have issued a statement accusing Wigan of being afraid to face them in coun.

They have not had the courage to do that, but have signed with them last April is chosen to hide behind the a caretaker basis until the Auscoat-rails of the Rughy League 10 intervene in a does have the courage of his potential feud between two convictions, and proceedings are to be commenced.

St Helens injury picture is gradually easing during the runup to Saturday's Regal Trophy final against Wigan. Dean Busissue, and the 22-year-old by, their loose forward, has

WEEKEND"POOLS FORECAST **FA Carting Premiership**

34 Hereford v Cambridge Utd ... 35 Leyton Orient v Mansfield... 36 Northampton v Cardiff 37 Preston v Plymouth 38 Rochdale v Darlington 39 Scunthorpe v Wigan...... Manchester Utd v Aston Villa1 4 Middlesbrough v ArsenalX 5 Nortm Forest v Southampton1 6 QPR v BlackburnX 7 Tottenham v Manchester City1 **Bell's Scottish League** Premier Division

Also playing (not on coupons): Leeds v West Ham: Sheffield Wednesday v Liv-40 Hearts v Falkirk ... 42 Motherweil v Partick.... 43 Rangers v Raith...,..... Playing Sunday: Aberdeen v Celtic. First Division

Endsleigh Insurance League First Division 8 Derby v Reading 1 9 Luton v Southend 2 10 Milwall v Port Vale 1 44 Dumbarton v Airdne 45 Dundee Utd v St Mirren . ne v Clydebank 47 Greenock Morton v Dundee 48 Hamilton v St Johnstone Also playing (not on coupons): Crys-tal Palace v lpswich; West Bromwich v

Wolverhampton.

Playing Sunday: Birmingham v Charl-ton; Sunderland v Norwich. Pools Panel adjudicates Second Division Third Division Also playing (not on coupans): Ter-nent's Scottish Cup second round re-plays: Annan Athletic v Berwick; East Fife v Spartans; Fraserburgh v White-hill Welfare; Kerth v Deveronvale.

24 Walsali v Shrewsbury 25 Wrexham v Əlackpool 26 Wycombe v Notts County 27 York v Swindon FOUR DRAWS: Stoke v Leicester, Wat-lord v Huddersfield, Motherwell v Partick, Morton v Oundee. Third Division TEN HOMES: Manchester United, Not-tingham Forest, Tottenham, Derby, Doncaster, Gillingham, Preston, Dundee United, Arbroath, Livingston.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

staving.

COCA-COLA CUP QUARTER-FINALS Arsenal v Newcastie (8.0) Aston VIIIa v Wolves (7.45) Leeds v Reading (7.45) Norwich v Birmingham (7.45) ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION

BELL'S SCOTTISM LEAGUE First Divisio Postponed: Hamilton v St Milmen (playing 2

Livingston v Quoun's Park. Ross County v Arbrooth ...

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Dr Martons Cup third round: Buckingham Town v Nuneston Borough; Newport AFC v Waterlooville.

SNOCKER: European Open qualifying tour-nament (Blackpool). TABLE TENNIS: (Nympic qualifying tournament Nymex Arena, Manchester).

Cole finally finds his Way back

Jim White considers a striker's plunge from plunderer to plodder and his recent recovery of the status of a £7m player

James' Park explaining to a group of Newcastle supporters that he had not gone mad. The fans had gathered to protest about the sale to Manchester United of Andy Cole, who had scored 68 goals in 84 games for the Magpies. What was the manager doing, the aggrieved want-ed to know, particularly that fan who had just proved his devotion to Cole by having his thigh tat-tooed with the player's image.

Keegan, showing more preparedness to meet the people who pay his wages than most managers, explained he had his reasons, that the £7m package Alex Ferguson had agreed represented an offer he could not turn down, one which would enable him to strengthen the side. Few accepted it at the time, how could off-loading a young player whose goals were the focal

point of the team It was the be described as. development? perfect Cole
Besides, didn't the sale prove moment: pass that, despite all Sir John Hall's to feet, first-time penalty spot. At protestations, Newcastle re- shot, goal mained a selling

chib, prepared to off-load their best to other clubs the moment reminiscent of George Best's a cheque book was waved? The Newcastle rumour mili

worked overtime to construct explanations for Keegan's actions, most involved a behind-thescenes falling out of House of Windsor proportions. A year on, Geordies must be convinced Keegan was not spinning a line that afternoon; he replaced Cole with Les Ferdinand and Keith Gillespie, whose form has propelled Newcastle to the top of the Premiership.

Manchester United fans can be less certain that their manager conducted a sound hit of business. Even after 12 months, the questions remain. He has scored 18 goals in 38 games in the red. somewhat misleading, as they include five against Ipswich, and two apiece against Leicester, Manchester City and Coventry. A bit of a Graeme Hick performance - capable of plunder against the weak, but disappearing against the big boys.

year ago, Kevin Keegan had missed more chances than stood on the steps of St Hull City create in a year. His Hull City create in a year. His shots hit bobbles, or goalkeepers' legs, the ball never seemed to fall kindly; many claimed his misses against West Ham in the last game of the season cost United the championship, which underplays the performance of Ludek Miklosko that day.

The theories mooted for apparent decline were many: the most persuasive was that Alex Ferguson, seeking to mould Cole to United's style of play, had tried to turn him into a player he wasn't. At Newcastle he was an instinctive finisher, converting the chances Beardsley made for him; ask him to do any more and he is not equipped. Now Ferguson wanted him to replace Mark Hughes, the best holder-up of play in the country. Worse, with Andrei Kanchelskis gone and Ryan Giggs
playing in the

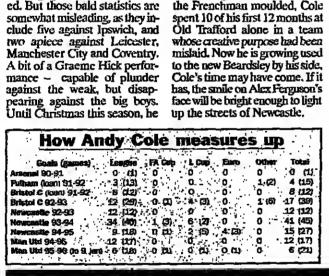
centre of midfield, United rarely supplied him with the ball back from the byline to the times in early December, his confidence ebbing away, Cole's touch was

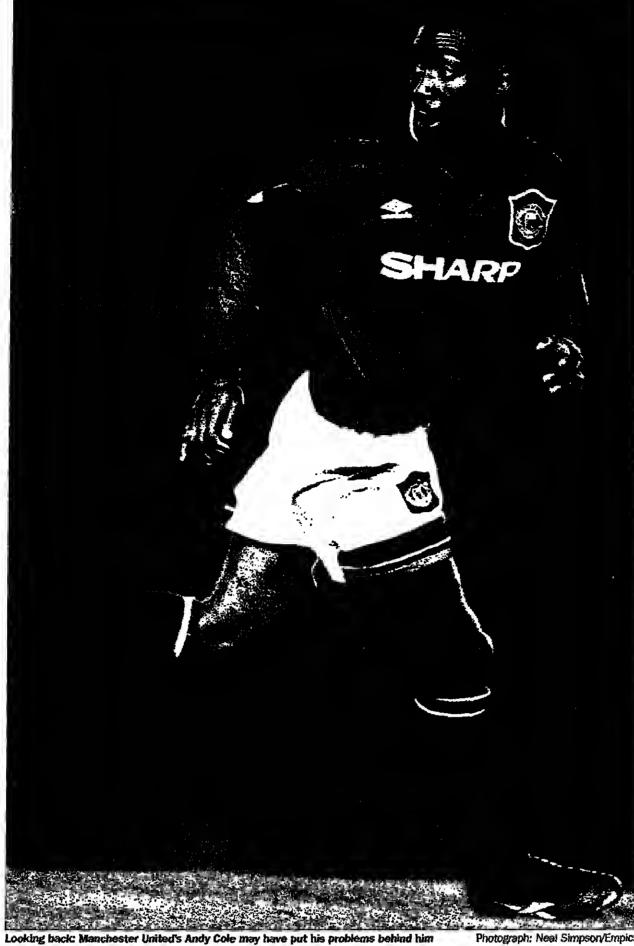
dismissal of Carlton Palmer ("he can trap the hall further than I can kick it"), His career was widely written off.

Then, the day after Boxing Day, Cole sent a shot of such precision past the Newcastle goalkeeper it seemed you had imagined all the misses. It was the perfect Cole moment: pass to feet, first-time shot, goal. Suddenly, the fans realised a player capable of scoring 41 goals in a season does not become a duffer overnight. Cole had begun a run of four goals in four Premiership games, and the ball had started to arrive as he enjoys it.

Part of the reason is that at last he is playing alongside Eric Canspent 10 of his first 12 months at Old Trafford alone in a team whose creative purpose had been

who has made 123 internation-





Butler's hat-trick lifts Gillingham to top

SPORTING DIGEST

SIMON O'HAGAN

Gillingham

hat-trick in 17 second-half minutes by Steve Butler enabled Gillingham to leapfrog over Chester into first place.

If respective levels of support counted for anything, then the battle for honours would be no contest. When the teams met at Chester in September, occupy-ing the same positions as they did going into this match, only 3.886 turned up. For the return, Priestfield Stadium was almost full to the four divisions.

its 10,500 capacity, a measure of how much interest has been reawakened among Kent people in a club which was on the point of extinction last summer.

While Chester have gone The Third Division's top-of-the-table meeting produced an em-seasons, Gillingham are atphatic winner last night when a tempting to return to a level they have not been at since 1989. The transformation may have been the stuff of supporters' dreams, but the manner in which the team has gone about things has

been nothing but pragmatic. Chester have built a reputation for passing football, but they were up against a team who had conceded only seven goals in the League all season, easi- Jim Stannard, But Gillingham ly the best defensive record in

Gillingham certainly made the better inroads early on, as they looked to the pace of Leo Fortune-West up front. The sheer number of Gillingham crosses, although variable in quality, kept the Chester de-

fence on tenterhooks. In spite of their territorial superiority, Gillingham were creating little that was clear-cut. In the 35th minute, Chester emerged from their shell, going close twice in a matter of seconds, first when Chris Priest shot over from the edge of the at home since 2 September. area and then when Stuart Rimmer forced a brave block out of the Gillingham keeper. responded with efforts from

Steve Butler and Dave Martin.

ken in the 49th minute when Butler stabbed the ball home from a couple of yards. In the 56th minute he chased down Stannard's huge clearance hefore lobbing the goalkeeper and, 10 minutes later, he was presented with his hat-trick when Spencer Whelan slipped in attempting a back-pass.

Some of the gloss was taken off by Jon Kenworthy's 86thminute strike, the first League goal Gillingham had conceded at home since 2 septemoer. Superindent (3-52; Sumond: Green, 7 Superindentification, 43), Harris, Smith, Martin, Rechific, Bashy, Naylor; S Busice (Puttham, 71), Fortuna-West, Substitute not tessed Glass (6), Choster City (3-5-2); Stevent: Burnham, Whelon, Asloric; Press, Renardson, Fisher, Norman, Rogers (Networthy, 57); Regis (Minter, 70), Rammer, Substitute not uneed: Murthy-Rofferee: I Hernley (Ampthall, Beds).

Bowring breaks with the past

Rugby Union STEVE BALE

Kevin Bowning used his first opportunity to place his own imprimatur on the Wales team vesterday when he announced a daring selection, including five new caps and eight changes, to face Italy in Cardiff next Tues-

day.
The new full-time coach previously sent out a team as caretaker against Fiji in November and was forced into change by injuries which have ruled out five of the team who scraped a convictionless victory. However, two of the newcomers then, Lyndon Mustoe and Craig Quinnell, are discarded along with Christian Loader, who was winning only his second cap.

But even so, this team - with a completely fresh midfield and two uncapped forwards represents a clear break with a doleful past as well as a colossal risk against opponents who instly aspire to join the Five Na-tions Championship and, in A-team guise, beat Scotland last weekend. "They have ability, they have great potential and they have great motivation," Bowring enthused. "We are looking forward with this selection. We need to evolve a pattern of play that will revolve around an open-side flanker who can win the ball at the breakdown and an inside centre with good distribution skills. We need a pack that can provide quicker support for the backs to ensure greater continuity in our game."

There is an exciting, if fragile, feel about this side, with Ar-wel Thomas being introduced

from Bristol in place of the injured Neil Jenkins at outsidehalf and Llanelli's ultra-dynamic Gwyn Jones filling the open-side role which the coach deems so critical.

Matthew Wintle, 23, and Leigh Davies, 21, form a new centre pairing, with Andrew Lewis, the 22-year-old prop who was Cardiff's only uncapped player in last Sunday's European Cup final against Toulouse completing the introductions. In addition, Gareth Liewellyn is restored for his 41st cap at lock, John Davies returns at prop and Emyr Lewis on the hlind side.

Strange to relate that, less than a fortnight ago, Brian Hanlon, Bristol's coaching coordinator, was saying that at 21 Thomas needed another season of English league rugby, and the former Neath prospect himself scarcely disagreed when he de-scribed the height of his immediate ambition to be a place on the bench. But perceptions changed in a trice when Jenkins was burt and Thomas now insists he is ready, despite his cluh's disappointing run of form, culminating in a heavy de-feat by Harlequins four days

Thomas is the first Welshman to be capped from Bristol since Ronnie Morris, another outside-half, in 1937. "I'm not afraid to have 8 go at anything. but it has to be a considered risk," he said.

WALES (v Italy, Cardiff, 16 Jam. Thorster, I Buns (Lianell), L Device of Whele, W Pipother (Lianell), A Thorn to), A Moore (Cardif); A Lewis, J Hum (Cardiff, Card), J Davides, Gardiff, Lary), J Davides, Gardiff, Lary), J Davides, Gardiff, Lary), I Davides, E Lewis, H Taylor (Nesth), II Jones E Lewis, H Taylor (Nesth), II Jones E Lewis, H Taylor (Nesth), II Jones E Lewis, Lary)

Bath take the studious route

Bath yesterday steered an innovative course into rugby union's new professionalism by an-nouncing a three-way deal that will establish 30 rugby scholarships at the University of Bath starting with Richard Butland, the stand-off who played in last season's cup final, writes Steve Bale.

With the protracted business of fixing contracts for the current squad now likely to be settled next month, the club are therefore almost ready for both the present and the future. Don Rutherford, the Rugby Football Chester's resistance was bro- John Elliott, England selector and national player-develop-ment officer, were presented with details of the scholarships at the university yesterday.

Accountants are, meanwhile, drawing up a husiness plan which will be ready by the middle of January, provided details of next season's European competition can be agreed by then. From there, according to John Hall, Bath's director of rugby, it will be a relatively short step to agreeing lucrative contracts.
All the leading clubs are em-

barked on much the same exercise - on Friday Harlequins will announce a major sponsorship to help pay for profes-sionalism -but Bath are looking further ahead with their link-up

STITUDO

NEW YEAR GRAND TOURNAMENT (Tokyo) Third
day of the 15: Garyu (Juyo) (von 2, tox 1) Manntumi (1.2): Tambisauga (3-0) Risistima (1.2); Rasmousia (1.2) Tomochana (1.2); Rasmousia (1.2) Tomochana (1.2); Rossia (1.2); Rossia (1.2); Rossia (1.2); Rossia (1.2); Rossia (2.1); Rossia (1.2); Ro

with the Keynsham firm Western Freights to fund the scholarships with £500,000 (split 50/50 hetween club and company) over eight years. Last month Harlequins announced a more modest scheme for five scholarships at the University of Surrey: Leicester have a tie-up with Loughborough University. Yesterday Butland, 24, a sec-

ond-year engineering undergraduate, became the first of the now scholars, following a previonsly intermittent line which began in 1980 with Chris Martin,

Ged Roddy, who doubles as the university's director of sport and Bath's player-development coach, expects seven others to have joined Butland by the beginning of the next academic year, building towards the target of 30 over four years and thereby taking care of a significant part of the club's recruitment. Saracens have followed their signing of Michael Lynagh by recruiting the Romford-born Lianelli and Wales lock Tony

Copsey.

The Irish RFU are to provide £400,000 towards development of the game, the four provincial branches receiving £100,000, It has been confirmed that Leinster. Munster and Ulster will all play in next season's Heineken Cup.

Mould is selected for Britain Kath Johnson, her Balsam

Joanna Mould, a 25-year-old schoolteacher, is the only uncapped player in the 27 yester-day invited to Olympic training sessions next month at the Milton Keynes National Hockey Stadium, writes Bill Colwill.

Sue Slocombe, the British coach, appears to have addressed the absence of any significant speed in her defence with invitations to Mould and

Bell's Scottish League

Premier Division

with invitations to Modici and	* members of the Olympic qualifying squad
FOOTBALL	
	RESULTS Raith Rovers (0) _1 Celtic (2)
lactpool (0)	Second Division Forter (0)
econd-round replay echin City0 Cyde0 44 sendoned five uniques into ears time edi's Scottish League remier Division utick (0,0 Falkirk (2)3 Creg 31 McGawan 41, Wer 90	PONTINES LEAGUE Flest Divisions Bolton Warderens 1 Nothinghem Forest 1; Everton 0 Mentesers to 1. Second Davisions Barnsley 1 Covertry 2; Gérmely 1. Sunderland 1. ANONI DISSURANCE COMBINATION First Divisions Pestiposede Proteincuth v Nomech; Watford v Iposich: Fa YOUTH CUP Tailed round: Postposed: Plymouth Artyle V Tottenham Hotspur. REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: British Students 0 FA XI 2 (et Keys Park, Hednesford).

American football Joe Montana, the three-times Super Bowl Most Valuable Player, will toss the coin for Super Bowl XXX. Montana will be accompanied on the field at Sun Devis Stadium in Tempe, Arizona on 28 Jan-uary by all of the former Super Bowl MVPs - a group that includes Joe Na-math, Bart Starr and Terry Bradshaw. Leicester team-mate. Johnson,

al appearances, has been out of international hockey since the birth of her first child. OFITIA OI RET HITST CHILD.

GREET HITSTON Objects training agent: J Atticles*
(Bradford Setthersbertd, t. Beyfars, M Davisos*, H
Roses*, J Shapeskin* (Souton Coneda Life), A Bresset*, K Brosen*, M Heinbein* (Stugit), C Cooks*,
T Callest (Hightown), t. Coope*, K Johnson, J Montel
(Balcan Latecator), L Cuilfiered, T Miller (Chino),
J Thompson*, L Vouges (Interior), M England, S
Frester*, P Robbertson* (Environment Trova), S
Macchenskin*, T Richle (Ganglow Vester Nick Photopoln), D Reallects*, P Shapeson* (Editory)) all
Scotland, C Reallects*, P Shapeson* (Editory)) all
Scotland, C Reallects*, P Shapeson*, (Editory)) all
Scotland, C Reallects*, M Shapeson*, (Editory))

L Weitlen (Swarness) all Whits. NBAc Cleveland 109 Washington 91; Utah 94 Miami 92. Postponed: Prindelphia v Or lando. EASTERN CONFERENCE

4, 72 851 WESTERN CONFERENCE MEDWEST DIVISION (1)-2 .727 -.690 2 .667 2 .124 10 .290 14 .258 15 .188 17¹²2 PACIFIC DIVISION 22 9 71D -19 9 679 122
-17 17 500 622
-15 16 455 3
-13 16 448 8
-14 18 438 822
-13 20 394 10 Seattle Secretiento WORLD SERIES (OKE-DAY) STANDINGS:

GP W L NR PTS __6 4 2 0 8 __7 3 4 0 6 __5 2 3 0 4 Brandes, H Otonga, 8 Strang, C Weshert.
WORLD MASTERS SERES (Sharjah); Inde 235
for 3 (43 overs; Y Sharma 80); England 235
for 1 (35 overs; G A Gooch 144);
TOUR MATCH (Harmer, Zim) Second day of
three; England Under-19 278 and 194 for 5
(M Wood 79); Masternaland Under-21 143 (G
Renne 78; C Campbell 3-5, M Huggard 3-47).

Drugs in sport

Jeff Stewart, the Australian professional cyclist, faces a ban of up to two years aftertesting positive for testiosterone following his win in a race in loverone state in November. He will appear before the Australian Cycling Federation's medical tribunal on 15 January.

Football Chris Lawler, the former Liverpool and England defender, has been sacked as manager of the League of Wales club, Carnaes Bay, but will stay on the coach-ing staff. ing staff.

Motherwell's Tennent's Scottish Cup
third-round tie against Aberdeen has
been switched to Tuesday 30 January
and will be screened live by Sky Sports.
The German First Division club, Werder
Bremen, sacked their Dutch coach, Aad
de Mos, yestenday, half-way through his
first season in charge at the club. KarlHeirz Kamp, de Mos's assistant will take
responsibility for team affairs.

African excreens ruling hody said wee-

responsibility for team affairs.

African soccer's ruling body said yesterday that only 15 teams would play in this month's African Nations' Cup in South Africa because of Guinea's refusal to replace Nigeria.

Nonthay's LATE RESULTS: Bell's Scottish Laugue Premier Division: Hiberton 1 Abertaen 2. Gill Vacchall Conference: Stevenge 0 Famborough 0. Bestare Homes Laugue Primition 3. Icis League Carton Comes League Principer Division: Navasative Utfo 0 Domy County 2 for Gassheart, Postponed Wokes vi Termere. Second Division: Descent Of Warson 1. In Son Insurance Conshisation First Division: Chrisca 0 Bratol Polymon 1. Jan Insurance Conshisation First Division: Chrisca 0 Bratol 1 (at Vingstonsan): Milwell 4 Assend 11 Termerham 1 Oxford und 2 for St Addars Christ. Fix Youth Cap Third round: Queen's Park Rangers 2 Beredond 0: Crystel Palace 7 Bristol City 0.

Jce hockey Nottingnam's injured Simon Hunt and Scott Monison of Newcastle are replaced Scott Montson of Newbaspe are replaced by Sheffield's Nicky Chinn and David Longstaff of Newcastle in the Great Britain squad to play an Olympic qual-filer in Slovenia on 1.7 January. NHL Wornpeg & Datton 4: Tange Bay 3 Montreal 3 (at): Postaurgh & Vancouver 5; Los Angeles 4 Dates 4 (at): Plande 5 San Jose 2: Postpolandia Boston v Colombo; NY Rangers v Weshington.

Pittsburgh 27 11 3 202 128 57
Montreel 19 18 4 125 130 42
Burtana 18 19 3 123 132 38
Beston 18 15 6 136 137 38
Hartford 13 22 5 93 129 31
Ottaws 8 31 1 95 160 17

The northern French city of Life became the 11th and probably final candidate to host the 2004 Summer Olympics yesterday when it formally presented its bid to the International Olympic Committee.

Rusby League
STONES CENTEMARY SECOND DIVISION: Charfey (22) 40, Highfield (6) 1.4. Choring: Trice
Marsh 2, Bramsell, Costello, Denave, Felt, Hob.
en. Goals Smith 6. Highfield: Trice I Chismol,
Leve, Goals Farving 3. (350)
Castleford's Russell Smith, twice a Challenge Cup final referret, will take charge
of the Regal Trophy final when St Helens meet Wigan at the McAlpine Stadium, Huddersfield, on Saturday.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of women nominated in Fifa's world footballer of the year poll. Norway's Hege Riise, Golden Boot winner at last year's Women's World Cup, was the third choice of Egil Olsen, the men's national team coach.

WRU MIDWEEK COMPETITION Pool A: Ponty-pool 24 Cross leys 18: Apertyron v Stains (post-pored). Pool 8: Llandovey 18 Duniant 60; Tenly Urd 12 Nethern 30. Pool C: South Water Po-loe 30 Carolf list 15: Ceephily v Llandson (post-poned). Pool 15: Mesting 30. Tondu 15; Ystradginiais 27 Bonymaen 18.

Skilling

MEN'S WORLD CUP SOKON FREESTYLE CROSS-COUNTRY (Strissle Plean, Stonek) Linding planlogs: 1 V Smarrov (Kar) 1rr Servin 14.69ec. 2

B Deshie (Non 1:55:57.1; 3 N Jonsson (Swel)
1:57:15.4; 4 T Mogren (Swel) 1:57:45.4; 5 J

Mushleng (Ger) 1:57:56.9: 6 B Faurer (IO
1:58:21.8; World Cup standings (after steen
events: 1 Deshie 6:60 pts; 2 Smirnov 500; 3

Fourer 356; 4 T Alagaert (Nor) 250; 5 Prolestour
233; 6 J Isomessa (Ph) 221.

WOMMEN'S WORLD CUP SOKON FREESTYLE
CROSS-COUNTRY (Strissles Pleas) Leading
placings: 1 M D I Carte (II) 1rt 15:70.0; 5 M
Middelplace (Nor) 1:17:23.8; 8 M Theurior (Aut)
1:17:52.8; World Cup standings (after seven
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fot; 3:1; 5 L Legutine (Rus) 3:17; 8 M DI Canta
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Blackpool) Seventh qualifying round: Y Merchant (Ind) bt M King (Eng) 5-1; M Bennett (Wal)

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dear den meted maced mated SPOW mored cloudy 95% 7.1 clear clear Wengenmixed 100% 7.1 Devos clea UNITED STATES Breckennidge ...packed 95% 4.1 snowy dear powder cietr Jackson Hole ... Dowder 100% 4.1 cies» powder

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Pollock plays prime mover as England fall

Cricket

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Cape Town South Africa 211-8 England 205 (South Africa win by 6 runs)

South Africa made another little piece of history yesterday when they beat England in a one-day international for the

The constantly chewed nails of both sets of supporters were an accurate testament of how much this game ehbed and flowed before finally going South Africa's way by six runs. In the end, it was Craig Matthews' fingertip catch to remove Graham Thorpe that all-round performance of 66 runs and 4 for 34 deservedly made him the man of the match.

It was a staunch effort by Thorpe, who hit only two

Africa tried to bowl maidens and apply the dripping-tap style of pressure, at least until Allan Donald came on as first change and removed England's top three batsmen in a fearsome sixover spell of hlistering pace. Coming into the attack after

England had posted their first 50 Newlands scoreboard

	(South Africa won toss)
	SOUTH AFRICA
	G Kersten Day b Cark8
	(11 mars 12 holls 2 hours)
Į	tD J Richardson & Stewart b Martin11
	(47 min, 28 0895)
	B M McMilan c Stewart o Martin4
	(12 min, 9 balls)
	D J Cultinan c Stewart b Reeve17
	(46 min. 33 balls, 3 fours)
ı	J N Phodes a Stewart b White
ı	(44 mm, 32 balls)
1	*W J Cronje run out (Thorne-Martin)24
ĺ	(\$5 mm, 44 balls)
ľ	i H Kalis c Thorpe b White38
ļ	177 mm, 65 balls, 3 fours)
ľ	S M Pollock not out
ı	176 mm, 66 balls, 6 fourst
ı	C R Manhews & Reeve b Cork
i	/34 min, 19 balls, 1 four)
į	Extras (51 166 to 4 nb6)
ı	Total (for 8, 205 min, 50 overs)211
1	Fall: 1-12 (Kirsten) 2-20 (McMillan) 3-44
ı	(Richardson) 4-57 (Cultinani 5-77 (Rhodes)
į	6-107 (Cronje) 7-152 (Kallis) 8-211
1	(Matthews).
Ì	Did not bat: A A Donald, P R Adams,
ļ	Bowling: Cork 10-0-51-2 (nh3.m3) (5-7-18-
ł	1, 2-0-11-0, 3-0-22-1; Martin 10-1-34-2
ú	Inht will (4.1-18-1, 3-0-5-1, 3-0-11-0)

boundaries in his 62. It was his unnecessary attempt to procure a third that cost him his wicket and England's last chance of the game with 13 runs wanted from as many balls.

Unlike England, South

Pollock back over his head.

With 44 wanted from the fi-

measured approach, South Africa began their innings by throwing the bat at anything off line and threw their wickets away just as regularly. Peter Martin, despite swinging the

probably settled the match, al-though Shaun Pollock's thrilling off only 78 balls, Donald quick-by had Alec Stewart beaten for pace, given low groping down the wrong line for a ball that might

have been missing leg stump.
It was that wide angle of de-livery that undid Michael Atherton, who lost his off stump as the hall held up just enough off the seam to make any adjustment with the bat impossible. When Graeme Hick followed after a hrief violent flurry that saw him take 11 off Adams's first over, England were 94 for 3 and the match evenly poised. England needed to rally and

who better to oversee it than their plucky left-handers, Thorpe and Neil Fairbrother, who combined to add 61, before Fairbrother was caught by Adams at mid-on trying to hit

White soon departed, chip ping a return catch into Pol-lock's hands. Dermot Reeve did not last long either as England began to wobble. He had scored two, but on his fourth ball he was caught by Richardson, diving low down to his right.

nal 10 overs, England would have been favourites but for the departure of Dominic Cork, run out attempting a suicidal single to leave England teetering on 177 for 7. Neil Smith was next to go, caught by Brian McMillan in the gully for three as he slashed wildly at a delivery from Pollock. England's hope of a dramatic recovery expired when Thorpe holed out.

In contrast to England's more



Cleaned out: Alian Dunald bowls Mike Atherton in yesterday's one-day international at Newlands

Photograph: Matthew Ashton/Empics

new ball, was lucky to pick up two wickets as both victims did well to reach the ball, let alone edge it to Stewart behind the stumps.

Cork also swung the white ball early on, claiming the first wicket, that of the left-hander Gary Kirsten, who got caught on the crease by one that swung into his pads.

something. Atherton clearly be-

lieves the way to build pressure is to take early wickets. It can be risky but the England captain would have felt it worthwhile when Daryll Cullinan edged Reeve's slower ball to Stewart,

to leave South Africa 57 for 4. Things did not improve for the home side when Jonty Rhodes gave Stewart his fourth By picking bowlers that do catch of the innings. When Hansie Cronje followed, run out

after Thorpe had dived, stopped the ball and thrown it to the bowler's end from deep cover, South Africa, having limped to 107 for 6 from 31 overs, were

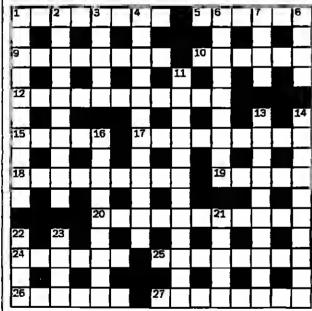
on the verge of collapse. The England bowling had been steady rather than spectacular and was soon put into perspective by two young men making their one-day debuts. England have seen little of Jacques Kallis in the

power of his strokeplay as he cracked first Reeve and then Gough for four. But if Kallis surprised the visitors with his bold shots, Pollock was a revolation, At one stage he even out-Reeved Reeve, taking 13 off the Warwickshire captain's ninth over with a blend of dahs and deflections, with the odd slog thrown in.

Test matches, but they saw the caught by Thorpe running in from deep square leg. Pollock took charge. In the last five overs, he and Matthews added 49 to take South Africa's final total to 211 for 8, a far cry from what might have been had Thorpe held a shin-high catch when Pollock was still 29. It was a mistake he almost made amends for once the lights had come on.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD





ACROSS

- 1 One follows a sinuous course, in the main (3, 5) 5 Whither, you say? South Hornehurch? (6)
- 9 Writer about to settle colour of elopers' craft (3-5) 10 Joints in possession of leftbank lesbian (6)
- 12 Most unconfined, abundant plant (11) 15 Republic once governed by 1 the docks, we hear? (5) 17 Endless complaint by tiro, being trained, is tactless and
- insensitive (9) 18 Gave up and left (9) 19 Bowing aid in Faure's intro-
- duction (5)
- try again (6)
 25 Liken his resort to a capital place for games? (8)
- nothing in it (6) 27 English artificial leather is light and delicate (8)
- DOWN As gloomy as H. Purcell, perhaps (10) Describing detailed study of
- Burton's work, for example There is usually room for improvement where one works (5)
- animal cunningly (12)
 6 Read offer of one in compe-24 Soldiers give attention and
 - 7 Trust rector with cathedral? Present number in army (4) 11 Ejection from underworld
 - 13 Harmony on the staff? (10) 14 Full stop 10 remain, however
 - 16 Old unworthy worker is resentful (9) 21 It makes sense to eat small
 - amounts (5) 22 Fresh air question in the country (4) 23 Hunting-party is curtailed
- 20 Most sombre examples of 4 He has to poach and pocket Win a Weekend Break or a case of Bombardier Premium Bitter CALL 0891 311 017

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Venables contract rumours quashed Earlier Oldham Athletic's Everton manager, Joe Royle. Buckley to be one of the best Norric McCathie. The bodies of managers in the country. Albion McCathie, 34, and 26-year-old.

Football

GUY HODGSON

The Football Association yesterday quashed any suggestion that Terry Venables will be offered an extension to his contract as England coach until the next World Cup without reference to the international committee.

Responding to fears that this latter body would be hypassed, the FA's director of public affairs, David Davies, said: "Terry will resume talks with Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, over the next few days. When that is done, Graham will talk to the international committee in the normal way."

how the decision will be made and who will make it. "What is concerning people," he said. "is to know what is the procedure under which an extension to the contract - or a rejection of that

extension - will take place." The FA Cup holders. Everton, moved quickly to repair defensive weakness exposed by Stockport County on Sunday when they signed the Newcastle United right-hack. Marc Hottiger, for £700,000 subject to agreement of personal terms. The 27-year-old Swiss international was at Goodison last night for discussions with the

of the 15-strong committee. rett. who has a knee injury, for have lost 11 successive League

Bolton Wanderers hope to sign the 27-year-old Austrian striker. Ralph Hasenhüttl. in a £750,000 move from Casino Salzburg this week - hut the chances of Manchester United making a new signing receded. Their manager. Alex Ferguson, dismissed reports that he was about to sign the Croatian national team captain. Zvonimir Boban, from Milan as "specu-

Alan Buckley received the poisoned chalice of a vote of confidence yesterday, when the West Bromwich Albion chairman. Tony Hale, said he believed

the FA Cup by Second Division Crewe on Saturday.

Oldham's attempt to use the Bosman case to avoid a fee for Toddy Orlygsson failed yester-day when a Football League tribunal ordered them to to pay Stoke £180,000 for the Icelandic midfield player. Orlygsson was out of contract at Stoke, hut the tribunal ruled in favour cross-border transfer. Stoke had

demanded a fee of £750,000. Dunfermline's Scottish First Division match at Dumbarton last night was postponed after the proposed move today. the death of the club captain,

Amanda Burns were found at town on Monday night, apparently victims of gas inhalation.

Celtic are ready to sell the Albanian international, Rudi Vata. to Crystal Palace. The Glasgow. club are willing to part with the defender for a bargain price he was watched by the Palace coach, Ray Lewington, in a reserve game on Monday.

West Ham have accepted a of a fee because it was not a £1.2m bid from Sheffield United for Don Hutchison. The former Liverpool midfielder, who joined the Hammers for £1.5m in 1994, will make a decision on Last night's football, page 23

Fry cooks up another signing

PHIL SHAW

It is a standing joke in foothall that Barry Fry's dressing-rooms have revolving doors, though a goalkeeping crisis rather than a managerial whim explains Paul Sansome's appearance as the 68th first-teamer of his 25 months in charge of Birmingham in tonight's Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final at Norwich.

Sansome, 34, whose active house intended, beartlessly service this season has been limited to the Springheath Capital League with Southend reserves, joined Birmingham on loan yesterday and goes straight in against Norwich. Ian Bennett, Fry's No I, has a broken right hand, and his Dutch deputy, Bart Griemink, an ankle miury.

Fry made "dozens of calls" in search of an experienced standin. Most of those he tried for were cup-tied or only for sale, but Sansome, who has played almost 500 games for Millwall and Southend, was registered before the midday deadline.
Norwich go into the alt-First Division tie withoul a win un-

der Gary Megson - in either of

his spells as manager - while Fry

looks to reach his first major semi-final at the age of 50 in what is already Birmingham's 38th match this season.

Aston Villa, who have played 13 fewer, expect a crowd of 39,000 for the derby with Wolves. Brian Little hopes that Paul McGrath is fit to return for Villa to counter Steve Bull and Don Goodman - "two guys who have the potential to wreck it for us. Mark McGbee, without a victory after four matches as Wolves manager, must plan without an equally important de-fender, Neil Emblen, who sustained a broken collar-bone at Birmingham. However, he saw much in the FA Cup tie to encourage him, notably the form of Bull, whose appointment as captain by McGhee now appears

as shrewd as it was surprising.
Reading, who visit Leeds,
have also borrowed a goalkeeper. Tranmere's Eric Nixon, who is eligible to play. Leeds, ex-traordinarily, can call on only Rod Wallace and Phil Masinga of the seven strikers with whom

they started the season. Tony Yeboah is away with Ghana and Brian Deane suspended, while Noel Whelan, David White and Jamie Forrester have all been

Lee Chapman, re-signed from Ipswich on loan yesterday, is cup-tied, which means Howard Wilkinson's record buy. Tomas Brolin, might even get a game. The Leeds manag-er left Brolin out at Derby on Sunday because he felt the "heated atmosphere" of a cup tie would not suit the Swede.

Arsenal whose run of one win in eight games has prompted Bruce Rioch to tell his chairman the side needs rehuilding, may have David Platt, Steve Bould and Dennis Bergkamp back for Newcastle's visit. The Premiership leaders outclassed the Gunners last week, hut remain unconvincing away from home. In their first appearance in the last eight for 20 years, they may be without Robert Lee, who has a sore Achilles tendon.

OPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5OL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St

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Orient defender tests positive for cocaine

GUY HODGSON

Roger Stanislaus, a player of modest achievement, ensured his relative obscurity came to an end yesterday when it was revealed he has become the first professional footballer in England to test positive for cocaine.

The 27-year-old Leyton Orient defender has been charged with misconduct by the Football Association, who regard cocaine as performance-enhancing. and faces, if found guilty, a punitive and lengthy han. Traces of the drug showed up

after he was selected for random testing after the Third Division match at Barnet on 25 November. Stanislaus has 14 days to request a personal hearing.

"We are looking to deal with it as quickly as possible," Steve Double, an FA spokesman, said. "Any traces of a performanceenhancing drug, particularly after a match, must be treated

as a matter of the utmost seriousness. In this case, the test level of the sample is thought to be performance-enhancing and there is clearly a case to answer."

The FA, the players' union and drug experts have all taken the line of education and rehabilitation with most players who have failed tests. But, like Chris Armstrong of Tottenham, they have usually been found to be using cannabis, which has no effect on performance.

Paul Merson, of Arsenal, admitted using cocaine, but only socially. Jamie Hughes, a Tranmere trainee, was the first person charged with using a performance-enhancing drug, but he was caught in a training ground test and claimed a drink had been spiked. Stanislaus is

unique in testing positive for co-caine immediately after a match. David Burton, Orient's secretary, said: "The matter is in the hands of the FA and we are unable to comment." Asked if Stanislaus would continue to play until his case comes up, he said: "That is something we have yet to discuss."



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